The Deaf-Mutes' Journal.

"There are more men ennobled by reading than by nature."—CICERO.

VOLUME V. MEXICO, N. Y., THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1876. NUMBER 30.

Evening Song.

Close, little weary eyes,
The day at last is over,
To-night no more surprise
Shall they discover.
Nor bird nor butterfly,
Nor unfamiliar flower;
Nor picture in the sky,
Nor fairy in the bower.

Rest, little weary feet,
The woods are datk and lonely;
The little birds rest sweet,
The owl is watching only;
No buttercup is seen,
Nor daisy in the meadow,
Their gold of white and green
Are turned to purple shadow.

Fold, little busy hands,
Day is the time for doing;
The boats lie on the sands,
The mill-wheels are not going.
Within the darksome mine
Are hushed the spade and hammer;
The cattle rest supine,
The cock withholds his clamor.

Still, little restless heart,
Be still until the morrow;
Till then thou hast no part
In either joy or sorrow.
To new and joyous day
Shall little birds awake thee;
Again to work and play,
With strength renewed, betake thee.

—*Good Words.*

AN EVERY-DAY HISTORY.

I wonder if you girls will take offense at a few plain words from some one old enough to be aunt to you, if not grandmother? I don't like to criticise you, for I am your friend; yet being so, neither do I like to see you do wrong, uncriticised. Every time I see you exposed, and inclined to yield to a certain class of temptations, I feel that I must forget my gray hairs, and go back to my girlish mistakes, and beg of you to avoid like ones. Girls! not one of you realize it, but some of you are wronging yourselves fearfully. And you are encouraging the evil. It begins in your hearts, and unless you are saved by a watchful parent's care, or by the heavenly Friend, some of you will live to become sad warnings to your more cautious companions.

Let me explain by stating a case. Annis is pretty, witty, affectionate, and romances over her intimacies. Andy has quite a stylish air, prospects of a fine moustache, and thinks people call him smart. Now, if he is industrious, and has good habits, you may be as faithful to him as you like, Miss Annis; no harm can come from it, as you are an honest, pure girl, I know.

Here the trouble is. Andy is too smart. "He seldom tastes of the ardent, and is *so* sorry after he has been so foolish, is he?" Well, the sorry makes but little difference if it does not keep him from indulging again. I am quite certain, too, that he has another bad habit; one you are not sure to understand, unless your mother lays aside all false delicacy, and fully explains the misery it may bring upon you if you persist in the attachment. Now, perhaps, he really loves you, will never find another Annis, and has in him the making of a man. If so, what will he say? This, in substance: "I don't blame your father for objecting to me (of course he does, for he loves his daughter), but I can and will be a man that he must respect." If he says this, and lives up to it, trust him; but give obedience to your parents by denying yourself of his society until they are convinced the boy is in earnest.

But, Annis, I fear he tells you your father is prejudiced against him; that he will reform if you will trust him; if not, he'll go the d——. *You* think, "Poor Andy! he needs my influence to save him. No one else can." He laughs in his sleeves, and boasts of your affection for him among his cronies. The first time you differ he goes away and gets drunk. Then you feel sure your coldness drove him to it, and "how he must love you!" You coax him, and he promises to do better (until you differ again.)

Why will you pity and romance over a fellow weak enough to take such a silly course? He knows he merits the dislike your parents feel, and that he could easily change it all by giving up his bad habits and going to work. If he cannot, what is he worth? Now, if he does not, how much does he love you? Tell him to save his breath for the hot potatoes he may have for dessert at forty.

He wants you to make all the sacrifices, to leave a good home, and bring grief to those who have watched over you from your cradle. If he will not reform now, don't expect him to after marriage. He will probably tell you, "You know what I was, now take the consequences."

In a nutshell, don't trust a young man until he deserves it; and, believe me, if his sense of manhood is not strong enough to save him, there is small chance for woman's love. Change your pity for his weakness, and your faith in your power to save into good, sharp criticism of his conduct, and if he shrinks, and brings up your hardness to screen himself, throw him away as you would a broken toy.

If he can't rely on himself, how can you rely on him? Will you listen to a short, plain story of one whom I loved like a sister?

In my school days Jennie B. was my dearest friend. You girls know how much that covers. She was attractive, a little wilful, busy, and I am sorry to say romantic. Not foolishly so, perhaps, but she was ever trying to bring her common place friends upon her mind levels, and ever touching their faults and virtues alike, with her warm ideal hunting charity.

Willis Lee was generous, full of splendid impulses, and with a sort of magnetic attraction in his blue eyes, frank ways, and gay laugh. But he was unstable, just the fellow to expect some one to do for him what he ought to do for himself.

Of course they soon found they were congenial, with harmonizing qualities in plenty. And so they had, for her assertive forces chorded with his lack of them, as a glare of light thrown into darkness makes superficial twilight.

Now if he had been able to blurt no with a smiling face, or had possessed a keener sense of right and wrong, they would have made a happy couple. His virtues, like wet thistles, had little resisting power, and this wrought the mischief.

He drank. Then you might have heard the old arguments which my unwilling ears stole, once, when I was visiting her.

"Well! you sent me away without a word of encouragement."

"Why no, Will! I only told you what father said, and that I feared he was not as far wrong as I could wish."

"Of course! Right! Who dreamed he could be anything else but right," sarcastically.

Provokingly cool Jenny, "Suppose you prove him wrong." Then in earnest entreaty, "Can't you, Will, show him you are not a rolling stone? Can't you go to work?"

"I've nothing to work for," sadly and tenderly.

I wanted to choke him, for I knew he was calculating which to affect, the pathetic or angry, so as to quickest "bring her around."

"Yes, you have," said noble Jen., "for yourself, for a home, then think about the woman to put in it. Come, be a man!"

"I'd as soon be a devil, if I can't work for you."

"Well, if you drink occasionally father never will consent." A shiver in the girl's voice showed how deeply she was moved, but debonair Will showed no pity.

"Father's wishes are so much more to be respected than mine, that I'll yield the floor to him. So here goes," and he made a desperate rush for his hat, which he did not mean to touch. Jennie's courage, which defied him at first, here broke down, and, with a quivering sob, she checked him, and, clinging to his arm, said:

"Oh, Will, Will! You are cruel. You know how it hurts me to see you so reckless. Can you do nothing for my sake? Must you always place yourself first, then blame me for just consequences?"

"You can do anything you like with me."

"How, how can I make you *earnest* in anything?"

"Love me!"

"I do."

"Trust me!"

"I will."

"Then marry me soon, and let your father make the best of it." He was a little coarse, you see, but he was triumphing.

"What! leave him in such a way, and mother so little a time in her grave? You ask too much, Will," said Jennie, a little hurt at his selfishness.

"Well! here goes," and he was off, feeling sure she'd be frightened lest he should repeat his offense, and would send for him.

I dared not offer counsel, for I saw she was in no mood for interference, and too, now, had right inclinations.

It ran along without change some months. Then her father, not a patient man at best, finding the restraint of his wishes growing less, began to storm, throwing much odium upon Will that he did not deserve. (A chance for acting persecuted which Will was quick to improve.) Jennie, keenly alive to her father's injustice, was upon the defensive at once, and soon forgot Will was at all in the wrong.

If her father had reasoned with her, and shown that he trusted in her filial affection and good sense, she might have been saved, but her just defense of Will, cultivated the defiance in her nature.

You can't smooth out the knotty old oak, or the temper in an old man, neither will a high-strung girl use exhaustive forbearance, so the end quickly came.

Convinced Will was wronged, and she only could right and save him, she married him. In a measure she felt the risk she was taking, and entered upon her new duties with a heart full of tender, forbearing love, and a determination to let nothing weary her in making Will's surroundings so attractive that no outside influence could charm. Only the noblest men deserve, or appreciate such love. They were a happy couple at first. Will was a model husband for eighteen months, Jennie bloomed with happiness, and even Mr. B. laid aside his antipathy to his son-in-law. Then the baby came, a fretful child. They had not money enough to hire such help as might have kept Jennie from the condition of a jaded over-worked young mother. I think the baby's crying, alone, did not drive Will to the stores to lounge about, but Jennie was always busy, had little time to pet him, to sing for and read to him, and, poor fellow! he felt his six feet of brawny manhood was neglected by his pale, little wife. It never occurred to him to amuse or help her. He was not brute enough to have refused had she asked him, but the poor girl saw he was selfishly feeling the difference between now, and before the baby came, and feared to put any duties upon him, lest she should increase the feeling. (If she had made him walk the floor nights with squalling Ned, and set him to dropping soothing syrup, he might have learned to pity the head nurse. I'd have done it.)

Years passed. Will took upon himself less and less responsibility, blamed "luck" when himself and family became shabbily poor, and revenged himself upon luck by spending more and more time at the village loafing places. All too soon two more babies came. The mother's health illy bore the strain. Her nerves were weak, and having no strong, patient husband to strengthen her, as, thank God! some of us have, she, at times, fretted. Yes, it was wrong. But unless your "wings have begun to sprout" you'll do the same thing. I believe it is a sensitive process, this sprouting. Graces, like teeth, cut hard sometimes, and maybe these women who fight against hysterics have grown wings that will carry them a long way towards heaven, only we can't see them. Will grew less inclined to stay at home, or work, and occasionally took "a drop" with a friend.

If Jennie chided him with or without reason, he, unmanly boor, to retaliate upon a weak, sick woman, suffering for his and his children's sake, sought other "good fellows," and had a "jolly time." He well knew Jennie soon repented every cross word, and would tenderly strive to make him forget it. I used to think he hurried away that he might tell her, "can't scold a man all the time," while he was glad she did bite her words occasionally, to furnish him an excuse. I'd have bit him.

They might have been living in this good-as-your-neighbor's way yet, if Jennie had not been laid upon her bed for a sickness of years.

Close times came. He wearied of his wife's sickroom when he found she was not "nigh unto death," and walked straight into the snares spread for all who are guided by impulse instead of principle. He drank hard, gambled, was peevish at home, and broke his wife's heart.

Did she die? No. One seldom does when it seems most convenient.

Perhaps she might have died in her hopeless desparing, if her children had not cried for bread, and she had not seen that her love alone stood between them and need of warmth, food and clothes. Her strong, nay fierce desires, drove death from her couch. I know doctors said her disease took a turn, but it was waiting to turn into the grave, until met by this passionate wrestling for life for her little one's sakes. She arose, always to suffer, but with strength to work, born of her great need.

Of her toiling through dreary years I'll say nothing, (but may God spare you) only speak of her prospects now. A few weeks ago a dear old lady friend, whose sympathies I wished to enlist, and myself, called at Jennie's home.

A poor, comfortless house, no paint, banging clapboards, and rags in the windows.

"They must be very poor," said Mrs. B.

"Yes, and inside there are no chairs, only a few boxes, a friendly merchant gave Nellie, a fire place, but seldom with fire in it, an old table, a few bits of dishes, yet when they are all free from hunger they do not complain."

"Oh, Nellie! How do you do? Another auntie for you. Mrs. B., who wishes to know you and your mother."

Nellie, a shy, delicate girl of thirteen, pretty and pitiful in her poverty, her bare feet and scanty dress, came forward. Mrs. B. seeing the child's timidity, said nothing, but drew her to her side as she sat down.

"Where is your mother," said I.

"Washing in the village."

"And Bennie, how is he?"

"O, so good! Auntie Ruth. He likes the cakes you sent him so well, and is not much trouble while they last."

"Is that so? then I am glad I brought some more, but you must help eat them, and the early apples are for you children to roast."

"Oh, Auntie! I cannot, if mamma will not eat, and she works so hard and" the poor child's sobs finished the sentence.

She knew her mother would not taste the food friends brought, (but which she could not refuse her hungry children) unless driven by starvation. I wanted to ask about the father, but knew it would give Nellie more pain.

Once he was "handsome Will," now a sot, often from home for weeks, to the children's joy, for when there he hesitates not to fill his stomach at the expense of their rations, or to steal what money he can find in the house to buy liquor, even if he knows they all most go supperless as a consequence.

We cheered the little woman's heart by a promise to see her mother; then left her.

"Has the father no love for his children, no conscience?" said Mrs. B.

"Oh, yes! just enough so that if he gets sober, it happens about once a month, he will be stricken with sorrow, and sob, and plead forgivness and vow to do better but not enough to carry him past the first grog shop, or away from the first crony. Jennie now sees his weakness of purpose, and puts no faith in his repentings."

"Does she scold?"

"Scold! She is as patient as an angel."

"Was the little boy born a crippled idiot?"

"Oh, no! Bennie at two years of age was a winsome, bright child, but in one of his father's drunken spells, he took the babe from its mother's bed and threw him upon the lounge, striking his head and back across the frame in such a manner as to paralyze the spinal nerves; I believe the dactors say, perhaps its the cords. Anyway he soon lost his intellect and all control of his limbs."

"Will, her oldest boy, younger than Nellie, I believe, be any comfort to his mother?"

"No! I fear only another cross. Before he was born Jennie worried constantly when Will was from home, lest he drink—she was not sure as she is now—and I think she gave her boy his father's frailties as an inheritance. He seems to have a craving for liquor, and young as he is, is often the worse for it. He is kind and loving, but I am sorry to say of a weak will, else I believe his affection for his mother and Nellie would save him.

"Poor mother," said Mrs. B., "with only Nellie for a stay."

"You may well say poor mother.—Nellie is her only comfort, yet she gives Jennie the most acute pain."

"Why, I am surprised, she seemed a nice child."

"She is a nice child, but you see Jennie has given the others up, as much so as if they were dead, yet her 'little girlie' is being sacrificed as surely for their sakes as is the mother. Nellie has a quick intellect, and is actually hungering for study, but she is delicate, and cannot attend to her duties, as some stouter child might, and still find time for her books. I often wonder if it is not Jennie's duty to leave all but Nellie and Bennie to shift for themselves. I she would she could manage in some way to send her to school."

"Why don't you ladies help her to go?"

"She can't leave Bennie, and no one will hire the mother and let her take care of her boy while the others are hanging around. I declare! it is a shame, something ought to be done for her, but there it is, she says she married him against advice, and now she never will leave him. Unless God interferes in the child's behalf I see no hope for her. I fear she will die before her mother's eyes, and have fancied Jennie thinks so too, and bitterly feels that it is the only chance for improvement in her darling's lot."

Here we must leave them. Only God knows their future.

Girls, are any of you preparing such lives for yourselves and children, through pity for some undeserving lover?

AUNT RUTH.

"Come and See Me."

Never take "Come and see me" as a phrase meant in earnest, unless it is accompanied with a date. Such an invitation amounts to nothing at all. If a lady or gentleman desires your company, he or she will appoint a time for your visit. "Call on me when you can make it convenient;" "Drop in as you are passing;" "Make us a visit whenever you have an hour or two to spare," are social ambiguities by which men and women of the world understand that they are not expected to do the thing requested. When people wish to be cheaply polite, there is nothing like this kind of vagueness. The complimentary small change of society must always be taken at a large discount. It is never worth its face, or anything like it. Yet it is a convenient medium of exchange, and heavy debts of gratitude that ought be requited in better coin are often paid with it. People who have more polish than principle use it lavishly; plain, blunt, honest men, sparingly or not at all. Whoever makes a friendly visit to a fashionable house on the strength of a mere "Come and see me," will often find that the family circle he has dropped into by request is as uncongenial as the arctic circle, and he will probably leave with a chilly feeling that will prevent him from venturing into the same high latitude again. But when a whole-souled man, whom you know to be your friend, grasps you vigorously by the hand and says, "Come and dine with me to-day—dinner on the table at 5 o'clock—be sure to come, we shall expect you," you can take it as certain that your presence is warmly desired. It is pleasant always to make or receive a visit from a friend, but a nod on the street is all-sufficient from a fashionable acquaintance.—*N. Y. Times.*

BOSTON POLITENESS.—We "expect" that there are no people in the world so distinguished for courtesy as the people of Boston. A few days since a lady of that city, with her child, entered a Beacon street car, and mentioned to the conductor that she desired to get out near Arlington street. No doubt astonished at the variety of cars, and the many directions from which they came and went, seemingly without regularity, she innocently but politely remarked to the conductor, as he landed her, "I'm very *much* obliged to you, I'm sure; but I'm afraid I've taken you out of your way!" EDITOR'S DRAWER, in *Harper's Magazine for August.*

Don't Want the 'Scription.

He was an old man, and he had a bit of conductor's pasteboard stuck in his hat. He walked into the drug store and inquired: "Have you got any good whisky?"

"Yes, sir," replied the gentleman druggist.

"Gimme half a pint."

"Have you got a doctor's prescription?"

"No."

"Can't sell it, then, sir. Jury in session; must be strict."

"Where can I get a doctor?" sadly inquired the aged inebriate.

"I'm a physician, sir," winningly responded the druggist.

"Can't you give me that—what you call it, 'scription?"

"Well, I might." And the Doctor wrote out a prescription blank, calling for so many ounces of "spiritus frumenti." He filled a snug little bottle with the article, pasted a label on it, numbered to correspond with the paper, and presenting the bottle to the venerable roysterer, remarked in the most business like way imaginable:

"One dollar and a half, sir."

"One dollar and a half!" gasped his astonished customer.

"Ain't that pretty high, mister?"

"It's our price—a dollar for the prescription and fifty cents for the medicine."

"Yes, well," slowly replied the wicked old duffer, as he he slowly buttoned up the half pint in his overcoat pocket; "I guess, boss, that I don't want the 'scription. Here's your half-dollar," and he stuck his tongue in one side of his mouth, winked ironically at him of the mortar and pestle and walked out.

How Birds Learn to Fly.

It is doubtful if young birds, yet in their nests, are conscious of the use to be made of their wings. After long-continued experiment, I find they make no use of them in endeavoring to escape, but trust to their legs entirely, if removed from the nest, or defend themselves by pecking at the intruder. When a sufficient growth of feathers has been obtained, the parent birds, directly and indirectly instruct them; or, perhaps more properly, force them to use their wings. So, at least, I can only interpret certain habitual actions of the parent birds with reference to their newly-fledged young.

As an instance, I will quote from my field-notes, with reference to the indigo-bird: "June 23, 1873. Found a nest of this species in a dense thicket of blackberry, and, curiously enough, within just seven paces of the railroad track. The young birds were just ready to leave the nest. I visited the nest the next day, and saw on my approach one of the four young birds sitting on a brier-stem, about a yard from the nest. Taking a favorable position, I continued to watch the birds closely, as they were very restless and noisy. Evidently something unusual had occourred or was occurring. In a few moments I saw the hen-bird go to the nest and push one of the birds out of the nest. It forced it from the edge of the nest, to which it clung with its feet. Once free, the little fellow struggled to keep itself up, throwing up its wings, as a child would straighten out its arms when falling. This was the initial movement that developed into flight. All the young birds were thus forced from the nest, and I am satisfied from no outside cause, as for the three following evenings the young returned to the nest to roost. I spent several hours watching this brood and their parents, and the whole time was occupied, except short intervals when they were fed, in forcing the young birds from point to point, but ever keeping them from the railroad track, over which trains passed frequently. Two days from leaving the nest they could fly six or eight yards, but always from a higher to a lower perch, and regained the more elevated branches by very short 'jumping flights,' with a laboriousflappings of the wings; but on the fifth day they could follow their parents almost any distance, and execute an upward flight with apparently the same ease. Examination of the wing feathers on the 30th of June, as compared with a week previous, show-so slight gain in the growth of feathers that I believe nothing in the increased flight-power was due to their being now better-fledged,"—*Dr. Abbott, in Popular Science Monthly for July.*

NEVER TASTED FRUIT.—A popular English Non-conformist minister was residing with a farmer in Glasgow, while on a visit to that city, whither he had gone on a deputation from the Wesleyen Missionary Society. After dinner, in reply to an invitation to partake of some fine fruit, he mentioned to the family a curious circumstance concerning himself, viz: that he had never in his life tasted an apple, pear, grape, or indeed any kind of green fruit. The fact seemed to evoke considerable surprise from the company; but a cautious Scotchman of a practical, matter of fact turn of mind, and who listened with much unconcern, dryly remarked: "It's a peety but ye had been in paradise, and there micht na hae been ony faa."

Literary Notices.

The "Midsummer Holiday Number" of SCRIBNER is an attempt at something new on the part of the publishers, who announce that all the care that is usually bestowed upon the Christmas issue has gone to the making of this warm-weather number. The subjects dealt with have an out-of-door interest, and the illustrations (of which there are nearly one hundred) are quite in sympathy with the text. There are five articles of summer travel; the localities described being Niagara, Colorado, Nova Scotia, the city of Trier on the Mosel, and Hide-and-Seek Town, a New England summer resort of great attractiveness, the true name of which is left to be guessed. John Burroughs writes in his own delightful language about Birds, and Miss Bridges, whose bird-paintings have been so much admired in New York, has made her first wood-drawings to illustrate this article. There are two remarkable short stories in the number: "The Living Mummy," by Tourgueneff, the Russian novelist; and "Crawford's Consistency," by Henry James, Jr. Of the serials, "Philip Nolan's Friends" is continued, Bret Harte's "Gabriel Conroy" is concluded, and Fannie Hodgson Burnett's "That Lass o' Lowrie's," a story of English mining life, is begun.

The publishers claim that this is "the most beautiful number of a magazine ever published in this country," and offer it as their contribution to the "glories of the Centennial year."

ST. NICHOLAS for August is probably the very finest issue of a Children's Magazine ever published anywhere. It is called the "Midsummer Holiday Number," and in make-up and contents is specially adapted to the season; and the great variety and uniform excellency of its contributions are indeed remarkable. All classes of articles are represented, anecdote, adventure, description, fun, fancy; and each representative is worthy to rank among the best of its kind.

About Liars.

Liars are numerous; they are found everywhere, and they lie upon all sorts of subjects in all sorts of ways. You do not need to light a candle when you begin to search for one. The Psalmist said, in haste, "All men are liars," and a Scotch parson thought he might have said it in the utmost deliberation. For, at bottom, a lie is found in all sinning, and are not all men sinners? Happily a great deal of the lying is self-destructive, and a lot more is balanced by other lying. There is no region where one may say, "Here, at last, I am beyond the reach of lies," and there is no subject upon which one may be sure that all men tell the truth.

Liars mean to deceive. That a thing is not true as stated counts for nothing. We are all "poor creatures," and hit pretty wide in shooting at the truth. A great deal of hurtful untruth cannot be laid on a personal conscience. It grows out of ignorance, loquacity, pig-headedness and imperfect hearing or seeing. Very few men can be trusted to see or hear a complex occasion—a battle, for instance—and report what occurred. Do not blame people too hardly for false reports; they did not consciously make the reports; they grew. A liar is a deceiver. He states the thing as it is not; and he does it in malice. Lying is the sword of evil purpose. Nothing else cuts so deep or kills so many as this sword called a lie.

Liars are foolish. The folly is varied and complex. A liar's possible work and his actual work are fortunately far apart. A cool liar, holding himself in in balance, lying occasionally, lying judiciously, would ravage society like a pestilence. But a liar cannot hold his tongue. He lies too much. He blunts the edge of his sword by hacking at everything. Presently only greater fools than he believe him. His folly is deeper. Hacking folks does him less good than he thinks. Even the pleasure of it is as problematical as that of getting drunk; the results of it are seldom up to his expectation, and usually one hundred per cent. below them. Still deeper folly is shown in the tendency of things to get right side up even through scores of liars are holding them wrong side up. Lying is a business that does not stay done. The inverted truth flops over while our liar is busy on another falsehooh. The truth pays better, and is safer even in a world full of lies.—*Methodist.*

☞ When the press violates the sacredness of home, and oversteps the just limits of a public censor to intrude on the rights of private character, it strips itself of dignity and clothes itself with baseness; it does not teach, but depraves the mind of the community, and it is not the glory but the shame of liberty.

A man who had been for twenty years an inmate of the Warrington almshouse, England, and was over seventy years old, married a young woman, left the institution, and went to work to support himself and his wife. A week later he got discouraged and hanged himself.

The Dead-Beat Nuisance.

The processes by which the dead-beat is made are various. A young man of bad habits goes on to worse, until as business becomes slack, he is discharged. From that day forth his clothes grow shabby, he begins to borrow from those who knew him in better days, with the promise, and at first with the purpose, of paying; but at last he wears out his friends, and begins to prey upon society at large. He has no resource but borrowing—borrowing is the basis of any story that he can invent. He wants money to bury his wife, his child, to feed a starving family, to get to some place where he has friends. Many pretend to belong in the South, and are only anxious to get back. Many in New York have just come from the South, their trunks pawned for passage-money, and they want to get to Boston. Some are just from a hospital, where they have for a long time been ill. They have been dismissed without money, and want to reach their friends. The ingenious lies that are peddled about New York in any single day by men and women fairly well dressed, for the purpose of extorting from sympathetic and benevolent people, sums varying from one to twenty-five dollars, would make a series of narratives quite sufficient to set up a modern novelist. So earnestly and consistently are these stories told that it is next to impossible to believe that they are not true; yet we suppose that the experience of the general public, like all the private experience with which we are acquainted, proves that ninety-nine times out of a hundred they are pure, or most impure, inventions.

The genteel female dead-beat is, perhaps the hardest to get along with. She puts on airs and dignities. She talks of her former fortune, and of her expectations. She has sources of income at present shut up, but sure to be opened in time. Or she has a small income terribly inadequate, at best, but not yet due. She wants something to bridge over the gulf that yawns between the last dollar and the next. Sometimes she lubricates her speech with tears, but dignity, and great self-respectfulness, and a beautiful show of faith in God and man, are her principal instruments; and it takes a purse that shuts like a steel trap to withstand her appeals. Some of these women selfishly stay at home, or in some nice boarding-house, and push out their children, and even their young and well-educated daughters, to do their borrowing for them. One whom we know,—confessedly a non-attendent at any church,—rails at the church for not supporting her. "Pretty followers of Jesus Christ!" she thinks the church members are.

The moment a man begins to lie for the purpose of getting money, or for the purpose of excusing himself for the non-payment of a debt, that moment he changes from a man to a dead-beat. We thus have dead-beats in business, as well as out of business—men who "shin" from day to day, and never know in the morning how they are to get through. They live constantly by expedients. Of course it cannot take long to reduce them to dead-beats of the most disgraceful stamp.

We have already in a previous number, chronicled the statement made by one of our most truthful public men, that there is in this city a house that harbors the professional dead-beat and furnishes him with romances to be used in the practical extortion of money. In this house there is a book kept, in which are recorded the names of benevolent men and women, with all their histories, traits, weak points, etc. These romances and this knowledge are imparted in consideration of a certain percentage of the money collected through their use. Whether we call this organized beggary or organized robbery, it matters little. The fact itself is enough to put every man upon his guard, and to make him decline (as a fixed rule, never to be deviated from, except in instances where his own personal knowledge warrants him in doing so) to give anything to anybody who comes to him with a story and an outstretched palm. Ninety-nine times in a hundred the story is a lie, and the teller of it a professional dead-beat, who deserves to be kicked from the door.

The only safe way to manage these importunate and adroit scamps is either to turn them over to the investigation of some society, or to call a policeman. Fortunately, there is in a large number of houses the District telegraph, by the means of which a policeman can be summoned in a minute or two, without the visitor's knowledge. In many instances, the policeman will know his man at first sight. Every dollar given to these leeches upon the social body is a direct encouragement to the increase of the pauper population; and, if the matter is still regarded carelessly, we shall, in twenty years, be as badly off as Great Britain in this particular. What we give goes for rum, as a rule, and we not only foster idleness, but we nourish vice and crime. We need to make a dead set against tramps in the country and dead-beats in the city, if we wish to save our children from a reign of pauperism, only less destructive of the prosperity of the best interests of the country than the reign of war.—*Dr. J. G. Holland, in Scribner's Monthly.*

☞ A gentleman having engaged a bricklayer to make some repairs in his cellar, ordered the ale to be removed before the bricklayer commenced his work. "Oh, I am not afraid of a barrel of ale, sir," said the man. "I presume not," said the gentleman; "but I think a barrel of ale would run at your approach."

☞ Riches do not half so much exhilarate us with their possession as they torment us with their loss.

Kindness is a language which the dumb can speak and the deaf can understand.

DEAF-MUTES' JOURNAL.

HENRY C. RIDER, Editor and Proprietor.
FORT LEWIS SELINEY, Associate Editor.
HENRY WINTER SYLE, Foreign Editor.

THE DEAF-MUTES' JOURNAL is issued every Thursday; it is the best paper for deaf-mutes published; it contains the latest news and correspondence; the best writers contribute to it.

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Address, DEAF-MUTES' JOURNAL,
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MEXICO, N. Y., THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1876.

Specimen copy sent to any address on receipt of five cents.

Give me some Money—I am Deaf and Dumb, and Sick.

Last week Tuesday, a tramp called at the house of L. D. Smith, Esq., of this place, with the "old, old story" well learned and quickly written, "I am deaf and dumb and sick." In answer to inquiries of Miss Josie Smith, the stranger claimed that he had been sick and in hospital at Syracuse, and produced a document to substantiate his story purporting to bear the signature of one Dr. Guaranin or some similar name, the chirography not being very legible. The traveler did not ask for victuals; money was what he wanted. Would she help him to a little towards defraying his expenses to Ogdensburg, N. Y.? Of course Josie sympathized with the poor, sick and friendless deaf-mute and contributed for the noble object of getting him to Ogdensburg. He said he was an educated deaf-mute, and Josie, being acquainted with the use of the manual alphabet, endeavored to converse with him, but his language (or pretended talk) was so unlike the deaf-mute manual language that their brilliant conversation will have to be deferred until Josie can acquire his new style of deaf and dumb language. Naturally we suppose the seeker of alms was sorry that she could not understand his alphabetical speech, and after bowing thanks for the contribution went on his way rejoicing towards the beautiful city which rests upon the south shore of the noble St. Lawrence river.

Now, the above little episode, of every day occurrence in different localities, may have been a case of genuine distress, or it may have been one of imposition. Bearing malice toward none, and "with charity for all," we give the strange tramp the benefit of the doubt and hope that ere this he has reached the goal of his ambition, and is now relating the ups and downs of life to his kindred and friends in the northern-most city of the Empire State.

The Itemizer.

The idea is to gather into this column items that relate to deaf-mutes personally, or to associations of deaf-mutes, or to institutions for the benefit of deaf-mutes. We hope our friends and readers will keep us supplied with items for this column; mark items so sent: *The Itemizer*.

PROF. WILLIS HUBBARD, a teacher in the Michigan Deaf-mute Institution, at Flint, was recently summoned to the bedside of his father, who lived in Oswego city, and had been an invalid from heart disease for over a year. He reached there on the 29th ult., and on the following day his father died. His remains were interred in Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse. Willis sent for his wife and children, who will spend the summer in Oswego. He will spend two or three weeks at the Centennial and other places of interest.

PROF. THOMAS L. BROWN and his wife who were married on the 28th of June last, are making their wedding tour to Niagara Falls, the Centennial, Boston, and West Henniker, N. H., the last named place being the home of the venerable THOMAS BROWN, father of the groom.

MR. W. W. MILES, who has been for about two years creditably employed at the Udell Ladder and Wooden Ware Company's shops at Indianapolis, Ind., is spending a couple of months at his old home near Canandaigua, N. Y. Mr. Miles has been taking some healthy exercise on his father's farm while assisting in cutting and housing over thirty-five acres of grass and harvesting twenty-eight acres of wheat. Mr. and Mrs. Miles are both enjoying themselves very much at his former home, and Mr. Miles is as much at home in the hay and harvest fields as he is at the company's shops in Indianapolis.

The Journal Affording Both Pleasure and Profit.

A lady says: "I have read several numbers of the DEAF-MUTES' JOURNAL, and they afford me both profit and pleasure, and a good deal of information in regard to deaf-mutes. I shall be happy to subscribe for the JOURNAL for six months commencing with the first edition of July."

What Canadian Deaf-Mutes Think of the Deaf-Mutes' Journal.

"We appreciate the JOURNAL far above any other deaf-mute paper published in the United States, and hope you will have a wide circulation in Canada soon.

"RICHARD SLATER.

"Toronto, July 19, 1876."

The Third Conference of Principals.

PHILADELPHIA, July 12, 13 & 14, 1876.

First Day.

The third quadrennial Conference of Principals of Institutions for the Deaf and Dumb in the United States and Canada was opened on Wednesday July 12th, 1876, in the Girls' Playroom of the Pennsylvania Institution. The attendance was quite large.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 A. M. by Dr. P. G. Gillett, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements appointed at a meeting of the principals present at the Belleville Convention of Instructors in 1874. He briefly stated the object of the meeting to be considering matters relating to the system of education in all its branches; and moved that the Rev. Thomas MacIntire, the oldest member of the conference, take the chair as temporary president. Upon assuming the position Mr. MacIntire said that he would not detain the conference with extended remarks, but would suggest that it proceed at once to the consideration of the business which had called it together. Mr. Ijams was elected temporary secretary. Prof. Edward A. Fay, editor of the *Annals*, was invited to sit with the conference.

Letters were read by Mr. Foster, from the Rev. A. Belanger, of Montreal; Mr. Lester Margetson, of Buffalo; Mr. Atkill, of New Brunswick; Mr. G. H. Johnson, of Georgia; Dr. John L. Carter, of Mississippi, and Dr. Turnbull, of Philadelphia, expressing the regrets of the writers at being unable to attend the Conference.

The following Committees were appointed:

On Enrollment—Messrs. Palmer, Wilkinson and E. M. Gallaudet.

On Permanent Organization—Messrs. Gillett, Peet, and DeMotte.

The latter committee subsequently reported the following list of permanent officers, which was adopted:

President—Rev. T. MacIntire.

Vice-Presidents—Joshua Foster, Warring Wilkinson, Miss H. B. Rogers, and W. J. Palmer.

Secretaries—E. A. Fay and C. W. Ely.

Interpreter—E. C. Stone.

Mr. MacIntire arose, and in a brief speech sincerely thanked the conference for the honor conferred upon him in selecting him as their presiding officer. He would endeavor to fill the office to the best of his ability, and would do all in his power to make the proceedings agreeable and interesting. The speaker explained that this is the third conference held by the principals representing Institutions in the United States and the Canadas, and believed their deliberations would be as instructive as those of the other two. He then introduced the Rev. J. H. Pettingell, who offered prayer.

Dr. Palmer, from the Committee on Enrollment, reported the presence of the following members:

Rev. Thomas MacIntire, Indiana; E. C. Stone, Hartford; Miss Sarah Fuller, Boston; Miss H. B. Rogers, Northampton, Mass.; Rev. Benj. Talbot, Iowa; Philip G. Gillett, Illinois; Chas. W. Ely, Maryland; J. L. Noyes, Minnesota; E. M. Gallaudet, LL. D., Columbia; I. Scott Hutton, Nova Scotia; R. H. Kinney, Nebraska; I. L. Peet, LL. D., New York; John Nichols, North Carolina; Jacob Van Nostrand, Texas; W. J. Palmer, Ontario; James H. Logan, Pittsburg; G. O. Fay, Ohio; W. H. De Motte, Wisconsin; Joshua Foster, Pennsylvania; Joseph H. Ijams, Tennessee; J. A. McWhorter, Louisiana; Z. C. Whipple, Connecticut; J. P. Ralstin, Colorado; Alphonso Johnson, Central New York; Thos. Widd, Montreal; R. P. McGregor, Cincinnati; Mrs. A. M. Kelsey, Cayuga Lake; E. A. Fay, Washington; Warring Wilkinson, California; W. D. Kerr, Missouri.

Upon motion the Committee on Enrollment was also constituted a Committee on Business, its duties being to arrange an order of business and to present a list of the topics to be treated during the sittings of the body.

Dr. Peet moved that the Chair be empowered to invite such persons as he thought suitable to sit with the Conference, except during such sessions as might be made secret. After some debate, a resolution offered by Mr. Noyes was adopted, inviting the directors and instructors of the Pennsylvania Institution, together with any directors and teachers of other Institutions now in Philadelphia, and any other interested persons, to attend the sittings of the body.

Mr. Fay moved that in the future all resolutions be reduced to writing. Agreed to. The Chairman of the Business Committee requested that the Committee be informed of all papers to be offered or subjects to be brought forward.

An invitation was received from ex-Governor Pollock, Superintendent of the United States Mint, to visit the Mint. It was accepted and a resolution of thanks adopted, Thursday at noon being appointed for the visit. Gov. Pollock is a director of the Pennsylvania Institution.

On motion of Dr. Peet, Mr. Whipple was requested to explain his peculiar system of teaching articulation. This Mr. Whipple proceeded to do, illustrating his process with a little girl, a pupil of his. The conference then took a recess until two o'clock.

Upon re-assembling Dr. Palmer, from the Committee on Order of Business, submitted a report which was accepted.

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS.

A paper by Mr. James H. Logan, of Pittsburg, on "The Necessity for a Training School for Teachers of Deaf-mutes," was read. It was an earnest and able plea for the thorough preparation of the teacher, and urged the foundation of a professorship for the training of deaf-mutes to become teachers. A liberal salary was insisted upon, and the Hartford Institution suggested as the best location.

Mr. Logan's paper brought out expressions of opinion from Messrs. G. O. Fay, McWhorter, Palmer, Peet, and others.

Mr. Ely resigned the position of assistant secretary, and Mr. DeMotte was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Rev. Thomas Arnold, of Northampton, England, was introduced, and stated that, while passing down Broad street, his attention was directed to the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, and he was informed of the presence of the Conference. He at once resolved to visit it, because he was deeply interested in the education of the deaf and dumb, and for a number of years had been engaged in the profession. The speaker then gave an interesting account of his experience with deaf-mutes in England. For the culture of the understanding he believed the German method to be superior to the French system. He then explained his own method of deaf-mute culture, and recited instances of his success in certain systems for conveying conceptions to the pupil's mind, other than object teaching.

The readers of the JOURNAL will recollect an article that appeared in it some time ago, speaking of Mr. Arnold.

CONSANGUINEOUS MARRIAGES.

Prof. E. A. Fay then read a paper on "Consanguineous marriages as a cause of deafness," giving much authoritative information on both sides of the theory that such alliances largely conduce to create mutes, but advancing no definite individual opinion in the matter. The speaker quoted from French, English, German, and other authorities to show that these marriages have contributed much toward filling our Institutions with deaf-mutes; but showed that Moses, the law-giver, Aaron, the prophet, and Miriam, the sweet singer, were the results of a consanguineous marriage. The paper recommended the keeping of accurate records in all Institutions of the direct causes (so far as can be learned) leading to the pupils' affliction.

The question was debated by Mr. J. Scott Hutton. He thought the view that these marriages produce deaf-mutes is strengthened by a comparison of old and new settlements, in the latter there being so many intermarriages and so many deaf-mutes, and that in our Institutions there was to be found sufficient evidence to call for legislation preventing such dangerous unions. No person is justified, he said, in taking to himself one tied to him by the bonds of consanguinity.

Dr. Peet believed that we should have full data on this point, and recommended the collection of all available information. As a point of interest the speaker said that of a large number of deaf-mutes who had intermarried over one-half had deaf children.

[We give this rather astonishing statement, as we find it in a Philadelphia paper, for what it is worth. Possibly Dr. Peet was not correctly reported; we should like to hear from him on a subject of so much interest to our readers.]

Mr. Wilkinson was opposed to the theory that consanguineous marriages produced deaf-mutes. He could not favor legislation to prohibit intermarriages, since any legislation at the present time restricting marriage rights would be regarded as an interference with human freedom. At a time when attempts to legislate liquor were fruitless there was but little opportunity to legislate with regard to matrimonial abuses.

Messrs. Van Nostrand, Noyes, Gillett, Palmer, E. M. Gallaudet and others also took part in the discussion, which resulted in the passage of the following resolution, offered by Mr. Noyes:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the chair to consider the paper of Prof. Fay, and report to this Conference, or through the *Annals*, the practical issues of this question, and prepare a series of questions to be presented to parents of pupils.

The Business Committee presented a programme for the following day, which was adopted. Adjourned.

Second Day.

The Conference re-assembled at 9:30 A. M., when the proceedings were opened with prayer by Rev. Thos. Gallaudet, D. D., rector of St. Ann's Church for Deaf-mutes, New York city.

The President, in pursuance with a resolution passed at the previous day's session, appointed Messrs. Noyes, Peet and Gillett to constitute the Committee to gather facts in relation to the effect of consanguineous marriages in producing mutes, and report either at the next Conference or through the *Annals*.

ART EDUCATION.

Mr. J. Scott Hutton read a paper by Mr. Thomas Widd, urging the advantages of an art education in deaf-mutes. The following resolution, accompanying the paper, was offered:

Resolved, That this Conference, with the view of extending the field of skilled labor in the arts and manufactures open to deaf-mutes, strongly recommend the adoption of a liberal and thorough art education in deaf-mute Institutions.

Messrs. Peet and Gillett both spoke in favor of the resolution, the latter stating that he had been impressed often with the readiness of his own pupils in acquiring drawing. He thought that the instructors in many Institutions had been culpably neglectful in permitting their educational courses to have been thus long pursued without a more liberal introduction of art study.

Mr. G. O. Fay said that his experience had shown him that the teaching of drawing to mutes was no more difficult of accomplishment than the study of arithmetic and other ordinary educational branches.

Mr. Hutton thought that it would be difficult to find capable teachers in whom the peculiar faculty for teaching the mute would be combined with artistic skill.

Mr. McWhorter thought that much time would be necessarily wasted upon many pupils in Institutions where drawing and painting were pursued as a common branch of study, successful results depending so largely upon individual genius. These branches should only be taught where the talents of the pupils seem to promise success.

Mr. Widd, in support of his resolution, communicated his opinion in writing calling attention to the benefits that would accrue to the pupils, making them competent artists and mechanics, and opening a way to earn an honorable livelihood. The mutes did not care for drawing and painting as nice accomplishments, but as industrial aids.

Dr. J. G. Hodgins, Deputy Superintendent of Public Education in Ontario, upon being called upon, spoke warmly in favor of the introduction of art education into Institutions, maintaining that it is possible to develop better painters, sculptors, and mechanical engineers from among mutes than from those who are not so afflicted. He thought that all kinds of contemplative employment were peculiarly adapted to mutes.

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

THE COTTAGE SYSTEM.

The next topic in order, "The Cottage System, or Segregated Buildings for Institutions," was then discussed by Messrs. Wilkinson, E. M. Gallaudet, Talbot and Gillett. The remarks of the speakers were at variance, some holding the opinion that segregated buildings are less objectionable than the ordinary structures, while others argued in favor of the latter. The discussion was dropped without a vote.

VISIT TO THE MINT.

The Conference than took a recess for the purpose of visiting the United States Mint. They were received by Governor Pollock, who welcomed them in a speech expressing in high terms his interest in deaf-mute education, and his gratification in having a deaf gentleman employed in the Mint; and then escorted them through the various departments of the Mint, explaining the operations of gold, silver, nickel and bronze melting and coinage. The deaf members of the Conference were conducted around by Mr. Syle. After passing a pleasant hour, the party retired, highly gratified with the reception accorded them and the interesting objects observed.

VISIBLE SPEECH.

Upon re-assembling, Mr. Homer, of Boston, formerly a pupil of Mr. A. G. Bell, explained by means of diagrams his modification of Mr. Bell's system of Visible Speech. He believed that though the Bell System was essentially correct, yet in its original form it needed some changes to adapt it for deaf-mutes to understand and remember.

An invitation from the venerable J. J. Barclay, Esq., President of the Board of Directors of the House of Refuge to the members of the Conference to visit that institution was received and accepted.

Mr. Barclay is Secretary of the Pennsylvania Institution, and one of the two or three oldest members of the Philadelphia bar, having been admitted to the bar only about a year after the late distinguished Horace Binney.

FIVE HOURS IN SCHOOL.

The next subject was "Hours of School and Labor." Mr. E. M. Gallaudet from the Business Committee, presented a series of three resolutions, stating that he apprehended that the views contained in them represented the opinions of a majority of the members of the Conference. The resolutions were read, and on motion of Mr. Gillett, considered separately. The debate that followed lasted three hours, and was participated in by Messrs. Gillett, Wilkinson, Van Nostrand, and Peet in opposition to the resolutions, and Messrs. E. M. Gallaudet, Noyes, J. S. Hutton, Widd, G. O. Fay, Ely, Stone, and Hodgins in support.

As finally adopted, one by one, the resolutions read as follows:

Resolved, That in the education of the deaf and dumb, the place of prominence and honor should be accorded to the intellectual and mental training of the pupil, followed by thorough and well-provided instruction in industrial labor.

Resolved, That deaf and dumb pupils require for their proper intellectual development while in school the equivalent of five hours of daily instruction, for five days of the week during nine months in the year, for seven years, under the direction of well educated and vigorous instructors.

Resolved, That instructors of the deaf and dumb ought not, as a rule, to be required or permitted to spend more than five hours a day in the work of the class-room, but they should be expected to divide the remainder of their time between study, recreation, and exercise in such manner as would best prepare them to sustain the strain upon their intellectual and nervous forces, which is inevitable in a proper discharge of their duties as teachers.

The first resolution as offered, stopped after claiming the *first* place for intellectual and moral training. Dr. Gillett moved to amend by adding that it should be "coupled with" industrial instruction; which would have made the two of *equal* importance. The supporters of the resolution would not accept this, but agreed to say "followed by" such instruction—acknowledging the importance of the shop, but keeping it *second* to the school-room.

The second resolution was amended by inserting the words "the equivalent of," and "for seven years."

We regret our inability to give a full report of the debate. There was no interpreter on the platform, and we were indebted to the kindness of two friends, Messrs. J. Scott Hutton and Z. F. Westervelt (whom we beg here to thank) for the opportunity of following the discussion, which the Philadelphia papers of the next day passed over with brief mention, as "not of general interest." We will note some of the points presented that our memory affords.

The opponents of the resolution urged that industrial instruction was of the highest importance; one maintained that without it there could not be complete moral training, and that after the age of 12 or 14, the time of the pupil was often more valuable in the shop than in the school, as he must learn a trade thoroughly before leaving.

To this Mr. Noyes replied very neatly with the fact from his experience, that parents often brought him their children, urgently desiring him to teach them language and religion, not a trade; they said they could easily teach their sons the use of their hands, as carpenters, or shoemakers or coopers, but only the regular teacher could reach their minds and hearts.

Again, it was asserted that five hours a day in school was *too much* for the pupil! four hours was quite enough. As might have been expected, this assertion came from the gentleman (Mr. Wilkinson) who, at Belleville, made himself conspicuous by his almost passionate refusal to admit that there was anything wrong or imperfect in the old system of teaching, and by his opposition to Mr. Cooke's resolution recommending a trial without signs. This had some show of reason, asserted in connection with the great length of time allowed at the New York Institution—*seventeen years*—for a county pupil entering at six years of age.

But this, too, was met with the fact that pupils did not actually stay so long. For instance, Mr. E. M. Gallaudet stated, on the authority of Mr. Syle, that a few years ago that gentleman examined the records of the pupils leaving New York at that Commencement, and found that the average time they had been at school was a little more than *five* years; and out of about 70 pupils who had entered together eight years before, only about 11 remained to the end of the eight years, and only *one* went into the High Class.

One gentleman declared that for a teacher to work only five hours a day was a great waste of time and energy that might be made useful to the State. He was asked why, if he thought so, he kept the five hour plan in his own Institution? No answer is recorded.

It was also said that it was "no hardship" for a teacher to work eight hours a day; men worked, and willingly, as long as that, or longer, in other occupations; and the teacher had time to rest, two days in every week, and two whole months in the year. In reply, attention was called to the nature of the teacher's work; how exhausting it was to his system, mental as well as physical; and while it was admitted that men of unusual endowments could stand it, still it was claimed that for average men and women, such as had to be taken, the strain was too great. Instances could be brought forward, from the very beginning of the profession in America, of highly qualified persons, who had broken down in health even under the five-hour system.

Very valuable and powerful testimony was given as to the laws on this subject, governing schools for the hearing. (It may be remembered that at Belleville, Mr Wilkinson said that in San Francisco the public school teachers were so eager to work more, the competition was keen to get extra employment in the evening schools.) Mr. J. Scott Hutton said that in Nova Scotia public school teachers were forbidden by law to teach more than six hours a day, and also forbidden to engage in any other work that would so tax their minds or bodies as to impair their efficiency in school.

Dr. Hodgins, of Ontario, followed, saying that in that Province they gave pensions to teachers worn out in the service, and took care they did not wear themselves out too soon, by not allowing them to work too hard. They had a law resembling that in Nova Scotia.

Mr. Stone stated that there was a similar law for the Boston public schools.

In his closing speech, Mr. E. M. Gallaudet said that he had desired to make no allusion to any individual institutions or persons in the debate; but as such allusions had been made by gentlemen on the other side, he was obliged to say that he had information that teachers where the eight-hour system had been adopted, confessed they did not work as hard as under the five-hour system. They thought it was not expected of them to work as hard. They spent about half the time listlessly, leaving their pupils to study by themselves. They knew that the pupils knew they were not making as much progress as under the old system.

It was agreed at the beginning that each resolution should be voted on separately; the debate on each resolution was longer and more animated than on the one before, but the votes did not show much change. On the third resolution, the yeas and nays were called for and ordered, each member voting as his name was called. It was carried by the decisive vote of 27 to 5, the nays being Messrs. Peet, Wilkinson, Gillett, and Van Nostrand, and one other whose name we did not learn. Two gentlemen were absent who would have voted yea, making 29 to 5.

The few remaining minutes of the afternoon were given to miscellaneous matters.

THE HOME FOR THE AGED AND INFIRM.

Dr. Peet spoke of the National Home for Aged and Infirm Deaf-Mutes. He urged the importance of sustaining the Institution, and stated that six hundred dollars have already been collected by his own Institution. If we can get the deaf and dumb while at school and after leaving to contribute toward the object a large sum could be realized. He believed that it should be supported and erected by the deaf-mutes themselves, without receiving assistance from the outside world.

Rev. Dr. Thomas Gallaudet heartily adopted the suggestion, and stated that the total amount collected in all sections in behalf of an Institution, of which he is the head, was $4,000. Such an establishment, he believed, ought to be placed in New York. The speaker gave an interesting account of his labors in the philanthropic cause.

COURSE OF STUDY.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the President of this Conference whose duty it shall be to report to this body before adjournment, a Committee to prepare for the *Annals* the outlines of an eight years' course of study for pupils as they are found in our institutions for the education of the deaf and dumb.

Messrs. Noyes, Stone and Palmer were appointed the committee.

Dr. Palmer stated that Mr. W. D. Kerr, Principal of the Missouri Institution, a veteran of forty-six years' service in the cause was present; and Dr. Gillett remarked on the presence of another veteran, Mr. J. J. Barclay, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Institution. Both were welcomed by the President in a neat address to which they responded.

The Conference then adjourned.

Third Day.

Only a short session was held, lasting about an hour, several of the members being obliged to return home. It was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Gallaudet.

THE NAME "ASYLUM."

Mr. E. M. Gallaudet moved a resolution that the directors of the parent school, the American Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, at Hartford, Connecticut, be requested to have their title "asylum" altered to "institution." The word "asylum," it was argued, was a misnomer, and distasteful to all deaf-mute pupils.

All other such establishments are known as institutions, and he urged that there should be uniformity. Mr. Stone acquiesced in the proposition, and it was unanimously adopted.

ENDORSEMENT OF THE HOME.

Mr. J. Scott Hutton, of Halifax, Nova Scotia offered the following:

Resolved, That the Conference having heard the statements of Rev. Dr. Gallaudet in regard to the objects and operations of the National Home for Aged and Infirm Deaf-Mutes, located in the city of New York, express their cordial approval of the enterprise, and commend it to the sympathy and support of our Institutions, and of all friends of the deaf and dumb.

Remarks in support of the resolution were made by Dr. Peet, Mr. Fay, and others, and it was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Noyes, of Minnesota, reported the following committee to arrange a course of nine years' study in the various Institutions: G. O. Fay, Ohio; Edward A. Fay, Washington, and J. Scott Hutton, Halifax. The report was accepted.

REPRESENTATION AT THE CONVENTIONS OF INSTRUCTORS.

Mr. G. O. Fay submitted the following proposition: To secure a more uniform and efficient representation in convention of all persons directly concerned in the education of the deaf and dumb, this Conference of Principals recommends to the Executive Committee of the Convention of "American Instructors of the Deaf and Dumb," that all institutions and day schools for the education of the deaf and dumb be invited to assemble in convention upon the following basis:

First. All institutions and day schools of whatever size, are invited to be represented by two delegates, one principal and the other a teacher or other officer of said institution.

Second. Every institution and school having over one hundred pupils is invited to send an additional delegate who shall be a teacher or other officer of said institution for every additional one hundred pupils or fraction thereof.

Third. It is recommended that the convention as thus constituted be held triennially.

After an interchange of ideas on the subject, in which Messrs. Palmer, McWhorter, Gillett, Gallaudet, Wilkinson, Peet, Fay, and Noyes engaged, the latter offered a resolution to the effect that a committee of three be appointed by the Chair, to whom this subject shall be referred, with instructions to make such recommendations at the next convention as in their judgment shall be deemed best. The resolution was laid upon the table. Mr. Fay then moved to refer the whole matter to the next Convention of Instructors. Adopted.

The President announced that the Executive Committee had reduced the assessment upon the different institutions for the publication of the *Annals*.

LECTURE ON CAUSES OF DEAFNESS.

Dr. Lawrence Turnbull, of Philadelphia, author of a Treatise on Diseases of the Ear, was then introduced to the Conference and proceeded to give a short address upon deafness. He exhibited a large sectional model of the human ear and a number of specimens of bones, &c., illustrative of portions of the human cranium. The Doctor believes that deafness (excluding cases manifestly due to diseases of the apparatus of hearing) is a rare complication of intercranial disease. It is much less common than diseases of the optic nerve, extending to the brain substance. One case the speaker has recorded of abscess and tumor in the cerebellum with deafness of one ear. Dr. Jackson, of London, has, he said, recorded a tumor of the left cerebral hemisphere, where there was deafness of both ears. There will be hearing as long as the little stirrup-bone remains in position, even if all the other bones are disjointed. These facts go to prove that the brain of the deaf and dumb is as capable of receiving and retaining any amount of intellectual knowledge as that of his hearing brother or sister, provided it is made available to him by the eye, not by the ear.

At Dr. Turnbull's conclusion a vote of thanks was extended to the gentleman for his entertaining and instructive lecture.

CONCLUSION.

Dr. Palmer moved that a vote of thanks be extended to the members of the press, who have from day to day met with us. Adopted. Dr. Gillett moved that a vote of thanks be extended to the trustees, matron, principal, and other officers of the Pennsylvania Institution for the handsome manner in which they had entertained the Conference. Adopted. A vote of thanks was also extended to the officers of the body, in response to which President MacIntire made fitting remarks.

The Committee of Arrangements for the Conference, consisting of Dr. Gillett, Miss Rogers, and Mr. Wilkinson, was continued, to make preparations for the next Conference, four years hence.

The Conference then adjourned *sine die.*

VISITORS.

Among the persons not members of the Conference, present from time to time during the proceedings, and some of whom took part in them, were the following, connected with the profession:

J. J. Barclay, Esq., the venerable and benevolent Secretary of the Pennsylvania Institution; the efficient steward, Mr. Stevenson, and the amiable Matron, Miss Kirby, who, with their excellent assistants, so ably seconded the worthy Principal in caring for the comfort of their numerous guests; Mrs. Coulter and Miss Knabe, and Messrs. B. D. Pettengill, Trist, A. L. Pettingell, Crouter, Kirkhuff, and others of the instructors; Rev. J. H. Pettingell, of the New York Institution, Mr. Z. F. Westervelt, Principal-elect of the Western New York Institution, at Rochester, Mr. Williams of the American Asylum, Mr. and Mrs. Fisher, of the Georgia Institution, Mr. Roberts, of the Kansas Institution, Mr. Turner, (son of Mr. Job Turner,) of the Virginia Institution, and Mr. Homer from Mr. Bell's School for Visible Speech, Boston.

The Church work among deaf-mutes was represented by Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, D. D., General Manager of the Church Mission; Mr. Thomas Roberts, of Allentown, Pa.; and Mr. Henry Winter Syle, of the U. S. Mint, in charge of the Philadelphia Mission.

Of gentlemen interested in education or eminent in science, there were Rev. Thomas Arnold, of Northampton, England; J. George Hodgins, LL. D., Deputy Superintendent of Public Education in the Province of Ontario; and Lawrence Turnbull, M. D., of Philadelphia.

Among other visitors we noted Mr. Jaques Loew, of Vienna, Mr. A. B. Carlin, "the deaf-mutes' Centennial host," of Camden, N. J., and Messrs. Cullingworth, Fortescue and Elwell, (a student in the National Deaf-mute College) of Philadelphia. There were doubtless others whom we did not happen to meet, or whose names have escaped our memory.

Altogether the Conference was very well attended, the proceedings were replete with interest and will no doubt produce important results, and the occasion was thoroughly enjoyable.

H. W. S.

Home School for Deaf-Mutes, Granville, N. Y.

The Rev. Thomas B. Berry, Rector of Trinity church, Granville, N. Y., will receive into his family, September 20, a very limited number of deaf-mute children.

Mr. Berry has had several years' experience in teaching children of this class and can confidently refer parents and guardians to the gentlemen below-mentioned, who can testify to his success.

Granville—within easy access, by rail, of Troy, Whitehall, and Rutland—is situated in the eastern part of Washington county, in a region of country whose surface is undulating and hilly. The surrounding ridges—spurs of the Green and Adirondack mountains—are elevated from 300 to 500 feet above the valleys and from 1,000 to 1,200 above tide-water. The air is pure and the scenery beautiful.

This school is designed to meet the wants of those who object to send their pupils to the State Institutions; and to supply the place and save the expense of private tutors and governesses.

Mr. Berry offers to parents a *home* for their children where every attention will be paid to their moral, physical and mental education, and where Christian sympathy will meet them in their every-day life.

References by permission to the Rt. Rev. Wm. C. Doane, S. T. D., Bishop of Albany; the Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, D. D., New York city; the Rev. J. I. Tucker, D. D., Troy, N. Y.; S. B. Saxton, Esq., Troy, N. Y.; Prof. I. L. Peet, LL. D., Station M, New York City; Prof. C. W. Ely, M. A., Frederick, Md.

For terms and further information address REV. THOMAS B. BERRY,
Granville, N. Y.

July 3d, 1876.

The Church Mission to Deaf-Mutes.

Dr. Gallaudet, the faithful and indefatigable rector of St. Ann's Free Church and General Manager of the Church Mission to Deaf-mutes, who has labored in season and out of season for years past to better the condition of all the suffering classes of New York, makes an appeal to the public for help, not now to keep the decent poor alive or at work, but to bury decently their dead. This lugubrious appeal paints in the strongest and most pathetic colors at once the deplorable sanitary state of the city at this time and the depression of all our industries. And it should be at once responded to. Mr. Gallaudet asks no more than $200 at this time, and we are requested to notify him that a contribution of $30 towards that amount awaits his order at this office. This we do with pleasure. As our reports to-day show, the mortality of the present season is unprecedented; and upon hundreds of families already overtaxed with the problem of keeping their living alive, the added burden of burying their dead falls now with an absolutely crushing weight.—*N. Y. World, July 21st.*

DEAF-MUTES' JOURNAL.

MEXICO, N. Y., JULY 27, 1876.

The Pedestrian Taking a Walk for Pleasure--A Visit to George Kent.

Archibald Allison, a constant reader of the JOURNAL, and who lives in Concord, N. H., is a boat builder by occupation, and a fast pedestrian by practice as well as being known as one of the best and most popular deaf-mutes of Concord, and a large surrounding extent of the country. Our friend Allison likes his friends, and true to the principles of affection, goes occasionally to see them. Being a fast walker, he does not allow distance to debar him from making calls. On a recent occasion he started out on foot to visit George Kent, who lives at Amherst thirty miles from Concord. Being of a Westonian pattern, he suceeeded in annihilating the distance in just five hours and forty-five minutes.

George Kent is well known as a very skillful trout angler and has, during the present summer, caught five hundred with his hook and line, although he is nearly helpless, and is unable to climb over fences or walk through rough places. Still he manages by patient application to capture a great many speckled trout, the most delicate of all the fresh water finny tribes. Mr. Kent is much given to his favorite amusement of trouting, and applies his feeble energies to this pleasing pastime with undaunted determination through storm and sunshine, heat and cold. Mr. Allison considers him as great a marvel of oddity as the world-renowned Sir Isaac Newton. The pleasure received from the visit he considers much more than recompensed him for his little thirty mile walk. Friend Allison challenges anybody to match him in a pedestrian trip.

Old Age Stealing on Apace--How Swift the Years are Passing.

Lewis C. Rider, oldest son of the proprietor of the DEAF-MUTES' JOURNAL has come home from the De Garmo High school. It must be that his father is now much advanced in age; we may guess aright that he is 60 years old.—*Deaf-Mute Advance.*

As the years roll round, our locks grow white. A man who has fought life's battles well, and done his whole duty in life's drama, through the heats of summer and chilly blasts of winter for sixty years, who has been true to himself and his Maker, and dealt fairly and honorably with his fellow men, need not be ashamed of his white hairs, nor deny his years. But having no just or lawful claim to the snowy locks, or the accumulated experience of sixty years of toils and hardships in this mundane existence, we beg the privilege to correct the editor of the *Advance* in his frenzied game of ridiculous guess-work. Why it is that having our oldest son come home from school should add so formidably to the weight of years the *Advance* may understand how to explain better than ourselves. According to his rather doubtful style of theory, if it were possible, that next summer he should have a son return from College to spend the vacation, the consequence would be that the ante-date of his (Frank Read's) age would make him a Centennarian long before the awards of miscellaneous premiums for antiquities shall have been awarded by the commissioners of the present Philadelphia Exhibition. Please keep on guessing, Frank Read. An occasional lesson of that kind will improve your capabilities for computing ages.

A Deaf-Mute Pedestrian.

FAST WALKING.

A correspondent of Concord, N. H., gives an account of some fast walking performed by Archibald Allison, of that city. On the 26th of June, he accomplished the feat of walking thirty miles in five and a half hours, successfully making the time in which he had undertaken to walk the distance. The third of July he walked eighteen miles in three hours and forty minutes. In walking his thirty-mile promenade, the walking hero of Concord made no stops for rest or refreshments. Mr. Allison is forty-five years of age. Our correspondent expresses his opinion that Mr. Allison is a better walker than almost any other deaf-mute, and affirms that he can walk a distance of fifty miles in ten hours.

Who is the next deaf-mute to claim the champion belt for fast walking? For one to be an easy and rapid walker requires practice in the exercise. Perhaps Mr. Allison's successful fast walking may be an incentive to other deaf-mutes to train their muscles in the art of pedestrianism.

Why the Bugs Don't Injure His Potatoes.

The editor of the DEAF-MUTES' JOURNAL has a splendid crop of Colorado potato bugs; the editor of the *Deaf-mute Advance* has none; kind reader, what is your inference?—*Deaf-mute Advance.*

Several inferences might readily be drawn from the above facts. First, the Scriptures teach that the wicked are not in trouble like other men; second, the editor of the *Advance* may have been too sharp to have any potatoes for the bugs to light upon, and finally, if he happens to be one who is opposed to deaf-mute farming, perhaps he does not own any land upon which he could tempt the bugs to a potato feast. In fact many conclusions in the premises might be drawn to explain the anomaly. It is barely possible if the editor of the *Advance* has a crop of potatoes that he fails to produce a variety of sufficient good qualities as to prevail upon those eastward-bound migratory parasites to halt in their hungry career long enough to snatch at a few hungry morsels within the pale of his secluded domains.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Maine Correspondence.

On the evening of the 17th of last May, Wm. Bailey was unexpectedly visited by a surprise party composed of the Biddeford deaf-mute ladies, accompanied by presents in honor of his birthday anniversary.

The deaf-mute friends of Mr. and Mrs. Tripp, of Saco, living in Saco and Biddeford met at the house of Mr. Tripp in the evening of the 23d of May last, by invitation, to enjoy a social party. Supper was served for the guests; various games and cheerful conversation contributed to the evening's entertainment till 11:30, when the party broke up and the guests went to their homes.

Mr. and Mrs. Titcomb, of Saco, also entertained the same party on the evening of May 29th. A generous lunch was handsomely served. About twelve o'clock the company were intending to leave for their homes, but were prevented by the rain. After remaining and enjoying the passing hours very pleasantly until 4 A. M., the rain ceased, and the party departed.

Saturday evening, June 3d, Mr. and Mrs. Dearing, of Saco, enjoyed the pleasure of their friends' presence. Games were played in the barn-loft. A generous supper was served to the guests. After spending the evening very pleasantly and happily, the company were about to leave when they were again prevented by the rain. The kind host and hostess provided a comfortable night's lodging for as many as possible, and the rest remained up and went home at break of day the next morning.

Mr. Bailey gave an interesting lecture on "Matrimony," on the evening of June 7th, at a boarding house in Biddeford, where most of the deaf-mute ladies board. After the lecture was over, the ladies of the house passed around ice-cream and other refreshments to those present. The evening was passed happily and the company went home at 12 o'clock. Mr. Bailey has been the leader of the Biddeford and Saco deaf-mute church association for nine months. He was about to leave, and at the request of the lady boarders at the boarding house before mentioned, he had some photographs taken Saturday afternoon, June 10th. The ladies nobly paid the expenses of the pictures.

There was a gathering of deaf-mute and speaking friends at the house of John W. Page, a well known gentleman of Biddeford, on the evening of June 14th. A collection was taken up by Mr. Page's mother, a lady seventy-six years of age, and ten dollars besides were presented to Mr. Bailey, by whom the money was thankfully received. After the speaking portion of the party left the deaf-mutes played some amusing games and adjourned for their homes at 11 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. Bailey gave a reception Friday evening, June 16th, for their deaf-mute friends. The evening was passed very happily and pleasantly. A lunch was provided by the host and hostess. The guests remained over night and the party dispersed at 4 o'clock in the morning.

Sunday afternoon, June 18th, Mr. Bailey preached a farewell sermon from St. John 14 and Matthew 28, in the Saco Unitarian chapel, which has been and still is opened freely for the use of the deaf-mute organization. Prayer meeting was held the same evening at the house of Mr. Titcomb.

Monday evening, June 19th, the deaf-mutes paid their parting visit to Mr. and Mrs. Bailey, at the house of Mr. Page. Tuesday noon, June 20th, Mr. Bailey and his family left Biddeford for Portland, where they took passage for Boston, by steamer bound for Marblehead, Mass.

KNIGHT OF THE AWL.

The Poor Mute's Legacy.

NEW YORK, July 17th, 1876.

EDITOR DEAF-MUTES' JOURNAL—SIR: Allow me to say a few words through your valuable paper on the above subject. Reader, if you are a poor deaf-mute man you will understand the significant term of the poor deaf-mute's legacy. If perchance you are rich do not scoff at the title and pass it idly by, for you know not what may be meted unto you. The poor mute's legacy consists of neglect and insult. It is too often the case with poor mute men, that their fate is to meet on all sides insults and neglect, repeated losses and failures until he plainly sees the grim monster poverty staring him sternly in the face. Then comes the legacy that has fallen to his lot. His own parents and friends of wealth do not now know him any more, and pass him by unnoticed. They are too exalted in their own selfish importance to bestow upon him one look of recognition, or give a cheerful word of encouragement to this unfortunate fellow being. The luckless victim of circumstances experiences a feeling of diffidence in approaching his former friends because he knows that he has lost favor with them by reason of his adverse circumstances. Perhaps he is able to summon sufficient courage to ask one of them to assist him in procuring employment, and the result as before stated, is neglect and insult. Thus the result is that they remain "down," and are obliged to seek relief from some charitable society for aged and infirm deaf-mutes, an industrial home or some similar institution if not in the workhouse or almshouse.

Oh! blessed is he who encourages the afflicted in their troubles, bidding them look to the dawning light in the east instead of looking upon the setting sun of their hopes. For such kind but rare specimens of brotherly humanity there are joys awaiting in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. If deaf-mutes shall cheerfully contribute according to their ability in aid of the Home for Aged and Infirm Deaf-mutes, God will reward them abundantly in that life which is to come. Ever remember with feelings of sympathy the poor, unfortunate deaf-mute.

ONE VISITOR OF THE NEW YORK DEAF-MUTE COMPANY.

The Aged Deaf-Mutes.

The "luxury of doing good" does not find so hearty appreciation as do some other forms of pleasure, yet the truth remains, however, hidden beneath the dust, even the golden dust. I see among my cherished neighbors a young gentleman of position, of kind impulses, himself knowing all of which he acts, devoting his labors to the enterprise which has for its object the construction of a Home for the Aged Deaf-mutes. Its statement is its eulogy. The advance in the science of communication to and with this form of human suffering is advancing; it has already touched the articulate; it has friends and education, but for and with all that, it yet remains suffering. The mystery remains beneath the shadow. Mr. Willie Nelson has given his honest, hearty, zealous strength of purpose to the duty of commending this good purpose. It is a labor which I commend to the unusual favor of all men. When the years of the evening of life draw in to these our fellow-beings, if we help them to find happiness in a degree, that act will not be one of those our last hours shall regret. Our hearing has its response to the voices of affection—our language quickened by its interchange. The divinity of speech stirs within us. It may be a gift, often fearfully wasted or misapplied, but its possession is beyond even the power of gold, whose power in this world is almost limitless, to supply.

Now for those to whose silence comes the added seal of age, this institution is to give some measure of relief. It proposes at least to diminish the aggregate of human sorrow. Doubtless in many men (*mea culpa*) the "flashes of silence" are to be desired, but these are voluntary. Those who shall enter the more than golden gates of the Institution for which Mr. Nelson labors, need no such admonition. Even instructed kindness can but imperfectly remove the barrier.

I judge no man's luxuries, but to every man's happiness, whether he has the high education to believe it or not, does there come any such solid enjoyment as when he frames it in somebody else's happiness? The aged deaf-mute! The words seem to rise by mournful steps to their climax, but humanity has not yet quite forgotten its brotherhood.—SENTINEL *in New York World, June* 17, 1876.

Worthy Efforts.

Prof. Emery, principal of the Chicago Day-school, is said to have kept private correspondence with a certain gentleman, with a view to establish another Institution in Northern Illinois—*Deaf-mute Advance.*

A BOX OF GLENN'S SULPHUR SOAP, which contains three cakes and costs only sixty cents, is sufficient to supply material for at least twenty Sulphur Baths, which would eradicate a whole catalogue of rheumatic and cutaneous maladies. Sold everywhere.

Sunday-School Concert.

A very interesting and successful Sunday-school Concert was held in the North Mexico church on Sunday evening last. The exercises consisted of singing, reciting Scripture, declamations, select readings, &c. The several classes that took part in the concert acquitted themselves well, and the programme, though quite elaborate, was admirably carried out. There was no halting, no confusion, but everything moved along smoothly and pleasantly; and the entire exercises reflected much credit upon superintendent, teachers and scholars.

Among the exercises was the Scripture narration of Christ stilling the tempest, given in the sign-language by Mr. Hiram L. Ball, a deaf-mute. This exercise was watched with intense interest by the whole audience.

The singing, which was excellent, was a very pleasing feature of the occasion, and much enjoyed by all present.

The superintendent (Mr. William Ball) seems admirably fitted for his position, and takes much interest in the school, as also does the pastor, Rev. Mr. VanVliet.

The church was densely crowded, and all felt that the concert was replete with interest and instruction.

The Atlantic Trip by the Colossians.

The trip across the Atlantic by the citizens of Colosse, on Tuesday night, was accomplished without any serious mishap, and with but little sea sickness. There was a large number of passengers, but as the ship was commodious, no inconvenience was experienced. The provisons, too, were ample, and of excellent quality. The weather being very favorable, and having a fast-sailing steamer, the passengers returned home the same night. Among the company was Rev. Mr. Sherwood (pastor of the Colosse Baptist church); also Mr. Northrop, of the Parish Mirror, and "Odd," our Parish correspondent, each of whom did ample justic to the good things furnished by the cook. Mr. Sherwood's Sunday-school class and Mrs. Parmalee's class, being among the passengers, added much, by their excellent singing, to the interest of the voyage.

—Formal invitations to the semi-centennial reunion of Mexico Academy will be sent only to those residing at a distance. Villagers and others will please construe the general invitation as applicable to each of themselves individually.

PHILADELPHIA LETTER.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

Until the past two or three days the heat could not be described by any words in Webster's Unabridged. Three hundred horses on the street car lines died in a single day. Of course, the effect of the weather has been very perceptible at the Exhibition gates. The managers of the Exhibition counted on eleven million paying visitors as an essential of success, and I doubt not that hotels and boarding houses counted on more than that number. If, however, the present average attendance continues, not more than four millions will deposit their fifty cent notes. The Philadelphia papers are loudly asserting that a lower fee would bring a higher revenue, but there is no more reason for respecting their judgment than their veracity. They have been dealing quite extensively in fiction lately, with regard to Don Carlos and have represented him as in the city registered under all kinds of names, in all possible disguises, in most of the principal hotels. If the emperor is in the city we must have better authority for it than these contradictory reports. But returning to the Exhibition:—the fact is, people who have visited the grounds during this weather are discouraging others, but in spite of this the rush must come, and on all sides is confidently predicted as early as September. No one needs to be reminded that this is altogether different from a regularly recurring "fair," and the earnest people who are studying it, note-book in hand, are getting information impressed upon them in a way that no school or college could give it.

A particularly disagreeable place to go these hot days is the Woman's Pavilion. This looks out upon the great garden of the grounds, and when, after wandering through that wilderness of flowers, plants and shrubs, one catches a glimpse of the name posted above the doorway, it seems just the place to conclude a ramble, but a look at the building hardly confirms anticipations. It has been very correctly described as two Saratoga trunks set at right angles and surmounted by something like a bandbox. But charge all this to the spite or insufficiency of the architect, and enter the building. Here, surely, in their own department, the ladies will not fail after doing so much to insure the success of the Exhibition as a whole. But we are mistaken, for a still greater dissapointment meets us here. Laces and millinery with a few fine pieces of needle work (for the most part from Catholic schools) are all that is distinctively feminine, and these exhibits are incomplete and often rivaled by State or even county fairs, as for the weaving of cloth in the wing, we have already seen that on a far more extensive scale in Machinery Hall, and there is nothing striking here. Type-setting, which has a central location is slow and the compositors handle their sticks in a way that would make Berry smile, notwithstanding his experience with awkward devils.

In the department of painting and sculpture, which occupies one wing, the most famous specimens of woman's work are conspicuous by their absence. Very few of the paintings have anything elabrate or ambitious about them, and are attractive neither in design nor execution. There are some good specimens of sculpture, especially in the collection sent from Rome. Passing a little further, the visitor meets with the "practical art" designs which are really the most creditable part of the building. The designs are mainly for furniture, and as carved are excellent. Throughout the whole ramble one can hardly help noticing the absence of inventions, unless these designs be called such. A few simple medical devices, a washing-machine or two, and a life-boat are an almost complete catalogue of woman's inventions as here represented.

Passing through this building is only a process of broiling, and after all one complains, like the character in Dickens, who had just mastered the alphabet, that he has gone through a great deal to learn very little. Some specimens of card-board work attract some attention. One represents a scene from Shakspeare, in which the artist of the needle tries to portray with worsted the emotions of astonishment, fear and horror. A card attached announces, somewhat unnecessarily, the passion intended to be portrayed by each face.

A quarter of a mile distant, up through the garden, is the only other building with which one has a right to be disappointed. The building, architecturally, is very satisfactory, and the arrangement at first glance of the interior is extremely pleasing. But a person whose knowledge of botany lacks anything of being perfect, will not find anything to keep him long in Horticultural Hall. Why only the scientific names should be appended to the plants is, as Dundreary would say, "one of those things which no fellah can find out." One could spend days there more agreeably than he now spends minutes if he only knew what he was looking at. A little while in the Conservatory in the Government Gardens at Washington, though it has only a fraction of the scope of this collection, is ten times more profitable for the ordinary observer than hours spent here. At one extremity is an organ, however, which is worthy of more than a passing notice. Patterns something like those used in weaving carpets and cloths are used by which a man who stands behind pumping is able to produce this tune, and that even if he does not know a "black" key from a "white" one. Music by machinery sounds something like poetry by weight, but it answers a purpose nevertheless. Some use is made of electricity, but it is too intricate an arrangement for explanation in a newspaper letter. From the gallery extending around the Hall one looks down upon a scene as varied as from a tropical clime. Palms in great variety bow to plants which have survived many a northern winter.

In this year whatever has looked upon the previous century, is regarded with new reverence. Perhaps the most curious Mecca of American pilgrims is Castle Garden, New York, and yet I doubt not that many have made the ruins a visit. When the alarm of fire was given, no effort could save the time-worn building. The emigrants who had just landed were Russians, for the most part, and huddled togther, for some time paralyzed with terror. At last they thought of their possessions and rushed for them like insane persons.

Probably very few who have "seen," New York have gone away without spending some listless moments at the Battery watching the landing of emigrants. Some, too, have worked their way into the round ugly building known as Castle Garden. But this generation has not known the place in its prime. Once these walks were the fashionable resort of the city. In the shade of these trees aristocracy used to while away the holidays which are now spent on the drives of Central Park. In this grim building with its green little windows La Fayette was received and welcomed, and here for years and years the great men of the city assembled on State occasions. At a comparatively recent period the Commissioners of Emigration bought it and used it for the accommodation of homeless strangers just landing on our shores. The man who had used his last dollar in getting across the Atlantic wrote to his brother or partner or cousin, off in Illinois or Missouri, or somewhere and wait here until help came. If he could pay for his bowl of bread and milk it was very well, if not it was just as well. When he bought his passage he paid a dollar and a half for the support of this institution, and many an adventurer has thanked the foresight which provided the shelter, rude as it was. As we entered the Superintendent's room, a haggard wanderer from Ireland entered with his wife. Some swindler had just taken the fifty dollars which they had been saving, from them, and they were homeless strangers, in a great city.

"Can we stay here to-night!" asked the woman.

"No! don't you see we are burned out," said the Superintendent, pointing to the ruins. "I can't tell you what to do."

She dropped her head, "The Lord help us!" and such a look of helpless misery passed over their faces that even men hardened by the constant competition of such scenes were touched. It has not yet been decided whether the building shall be rebuilt or not. But such scenes as this call for something of the kind.

N. E. P.

Philadelphia, July 22, 1876.

CENTENNIAL LETTER.

More about the Orientals—The Almond-eyed Chinaman's Display at the Fair—What house furnishing costs in the Flowery Kingdom—Other Notes about the Show—Total attendance July 19th.

(From our regular Correspondent.)

PHILADELPHIA, July 24, 1876.

Taking up the review where I left it last week the comparison of China and Japan by their respective displays is still in order. Another careful tour through the two sections confirms my first impressions in some respects and modifies them somewhat in others. I must confess that the average curiosity-hunter would argue for a greater similarity in the handiwork of these people. The Chinese section runs parallel with that of Japan, opening upon the main avenue. There is not sufficient room given for the extent of the display, and the result is that the space is generally uncomfortably crowded, but the arrangement of the section is effective and pleasing. The characteristic gateway to the department gives a good idea of the world of wonders to be seen within, and all the fittings-up are to foreign eyes so odd and fantastic as to attract almost as much attention as the articles exhibited. It is the style to denominate these modes of building and decorations as "tea caddy" fashions, but looked at impartially, these designs are seen to have a kind of wild beauty. The portals, cases, etc., appear heavy and cumbrous, but the fact must not be lost sight of that each of them gives in itself a condensed idea of the whole science of archítechture as the Chinese understand it. There is a strange lack of versatility about this people. They have been doing the same thing in the same way for ages and it never seems to occur to them to vary from settled usage. A temple is built in a certain way; a case ten feet square is built in the same way; and if one looks cumbrous while the other seems well proportioned, the fault is in the need of having so small a structure. The visitor will observe various pictures in the department, of Chinese edifices of varying size and elegance, and will notice both that the one style of building runs through all, and that when it can be properly displayed it is not heavy, but light and elegant.

Here, as in the Japanese section, a prominent feature consists of those wonderful and very elaborate screens, some drawn and shaded in Inda ink, but more of them embroidered. The framing of these works by the Chinese is superior to that of the Japanese. The frames are of open carved woodwork, beautifully executed and forming a splendid border all around the picture. This wood-carving is one of the best things done by the Chinese. A variety of woods are shown in the section, but the only kind which enters into the construction of goods described in this letter is a magnificent, black, close-grained wood closely resembling ebony. This material takes a dull, deep polish, and makes one of the finest mediums of ornamentation I have ever seen. In addition to the framework of the screens, various handsome and pecu liar articles of furniture are made of it. A parlor set is noticeable, including a splendid sofa. A favorite article with Chinese housekeepers appears to be a sort of buffet, with doors on the lower portion and open shelves above; it makes a charming piece of furniture. There are elegant centre tables, card tables, etc., of the same material, with tops of native variegated marble, as well as of painted china resembling mosaic work. The vases and bronzes made by both the Chinese and Japanese are noticeable features. The extent to which animal subjects are portrayed in all their works is marvelous. Birds, dragons, fishes and reptiles are introduced everywhere, sometimes with a humorous turn and again with an effect anything but funny. Some idea of the elaborate workmanship of these ornaments may be gathered from the prices marked on the exhibits. A pair of huge vases all covered over with gold dragons costs only the trifling sum of $2,500, and a very handsome, carved chamber set might be obtained for an outlay of only $6,000. Young couples venturing into matrimony this season are recommended to visit the Exposition and perfect their housekeeping arrangements.

In the manufacture of silk China had for ages the monopoly of the world. At last France broke in, and of late years other countries have powerfully followed, but the Flowery Kingdom still holds a front place in this respect, and in some particulars her silk manufactures are even yet unrivalled. The display of this kind is reasonably satisfactory, though not as complete as might have been expected, considering Chinese supremacy in this field. Perhaps the authorities considered that silk goods would be no novelty to people who had always used them in their stores and houses. But the grades of goods here shown are not at all familiar in America, and will well repay any one's inspection. The figures are large rather than neat, but they are beautifully worked, and there is a gorgeous solidity about the fabric altogether wanting in the products of most other looms. There are also rich plain silks as well as light summer goods, and a "full line" of the famous Canton crepes. The silks are decidedly among the best things shown in the Chinese section, the display as a whole outranking that in the Japanese department. Other interesting foreign displays, among which are Brazil, Egypt, Spain and Switzerland, will come in for review in succeeding letters.

It is officially announced by the Centennial Bureau of Agriculture that the livestock display will be held in the months of September, October and November, and that the periods devoted to each group would be as follows: Group 29, horses, mules and asses, from September 1 to 14; group 30, horned cattle September 21 to October 4; groups 31 and 32, sheep, goats and swine, from October 10 to 18; group 33, dogs, from September 4 to 8; group 34, poultry, from October 27 to November 6. Entries will close August 10 prox., and the system of awards for live stock will be the same as that adopted for the other departments of the Exhibition. Burnet Landreth, Esq., Chief of Bureau of Agriculture, states that animals posessing points of excellence will be reported upon according to their inherent and comparative merits, and that exhibitors whose stock is recommended by the judges for an award will receive a special report and the diploma and bronze medal of the United States Centennial Commission. The judges in each group will also make a general report upon the development and present characteristics of each breed, especial reference being made to animals of a superior merit. The testing of agricultural implements at Schenck's Station, which is now in progress, includes twelve threshers and ten agricultural engines, and a number of fans and food-cutters. In the contest between the threshers the principal object is to show the length of time occupied in thrashing a certain amount of grain and the throughness of the work. The power required to do the work is demonstrated by dynamometer test. In the case of the engines the amount of fuel and wood used, actual power developed, efficiency of work, etc., are also being exemplified.

And the weather still continues melting. Everybody and everything succumbs to it. The effect has been to considerably diminish the attendence for the week just closed, there being during that period an average of only about 27,000 daily visitors. The total number of admissions to Wednesday evening was 2,309,767, and the total cash receipts $762,556.

—Dr. Bradbury has added a story to the wing of his house and re-shingled it.

—On Tuesday we received a call from our former townsman, Mr. W. S. Calkins, of Erie, Pa. He is engaged in house and sign painting, paper hanging, &c., and we are glad to learn that he is meeting with good success in his business.

—Pay but one cent postage hereafter to any part of the United States upon the INDEPENDENT, or any other newspaper weighing two ounces or less, and one cent for each additional two ounces or fractional part thereof. You are at liberty to put your name on the outside wrapper as sender, if you choose.

—Utica is to have another baby show at their Central New York Fair, September 7th. Nine prizes, varying from $5 to $25, are offered for prize babies born on and after January 1, 1876. The baby that looks the most like its father and the one that looks most like its mother, will each receive $5; the largest and smallest $5, and the prettiest from $5 to $25.

—It has been stated by several of our exchanges that J. D. Wilson, Esq., is a candidate for Member of Assembly of this District, in place of Hon. J. Preston, who is not an aspirant for that position. This is a mistake, for while Mr. Wilson may have some longings in that direction, Mr. Preston is seeking for renomination by the Republicans as a candidate for the office in question—*Pulaski Democrat.*

News of the Week.

Hon. George F. Hoar declines a renomination for Congress.

The Turf, Field and Farm offers a prize of $10,000 in gold, to be competed for in October, at Philadelphia, by Russian and American stallions.

Comodore Garner's yatch, Mohawk, of New York, capsized off Stapleton, Thurscay, and he, his wife, his brother-in-law, F. Thorne, a Miss Hunter and the cabin boy were drowned.

The Elcho Shield was won by the English team.

General Sheridan will go out and take command of the operations against the Sioux in person; our forces will give the Sioux odds to tempt them to fight.

Mr. Beecher preached at the Thousand Islands Sunday.

Thirteen Chinamen and a number of Italians were drowned by a waterspout near Eureka, Cal., Sunday.

At Rondout, N. Y., the family of Geo. B. Hibbard, consisting of himself and wife, Frank Hibbard and wife of New York, Fred Hibbard and a servant girl were taken with severe vomiting after supper, Monday night. Nausea continued until one o'clock Tuesday morning. Antidotes for arsenical poisoning were administered with success and the victims are now doing well. A white sediment was found in the teapot resembling arsenic, and this is thought to be arsenic by the physicians who are now analyzing it. No suspicions are entertained as to who is the poisoner.

Four companies of artillery are to be taken from Rhode Island forts and sent to the Indian country.

The town of Albeuve, Switzerland, has been wholly destroyed by fire.

The Mexican government troops continue to get the best of the revolutionists.

Heavy rains have caused the flooding of Eureka, Nev., and the destruction of several houses.

Two young daughters of M. Pritchard, near Logansport, Ind., were burned to death Sunday night by the explosion of an oil can, from which they were pouring kerosene in the kitchen stove.

Over 256,000 barrels of petroleum were destroyed in the oil regions by lightning.

A. E. Redstone is mentioned for Vice-President on the ticket with Peter Cooper.

George William Curtis, Gen. Barlow, Mr. Forster, and Mr. Choate have had a secret conference at Albany on State politics.

A secret committee has been formed in Italy to agitate for the reunion of Nice and Savoy. They have asked the Germans to assist them.

The Khan of Kashgar, with 40,000 men, has, it is reported, opened hostilities against China, which is almost defenceless to resist the attack.

Orders have been issued by the management of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company to carry all persons in its employ and their families to the Centennial Exhibition.

Centennial Excursion.

There will be a grand centennial excursion to Niagara Falls via Lake Ontario and Oswego and Rome Division of the Rome, Watertown & Ogdensburg RR., Thursday, August 3d, 1876. Fare for the round trip only $2.50. Regular fare, $11; reduction, $8.50. The excursionists will leave Richland Station by a special train chartered expressly for the occasion and return the same day, having full four hours at the Falls, ample time to see all points of interest. Train leaves Richland Station at 6 o'clock A. M. (sharp); Pulaski, 6:12; Sand Hill, 6:21; Mexico, 6:34; New Haven, 6:47; Scriba, 6:56; arrive at Oswego, 7:15; leave Oswego, 7:30; Furniss, 7:42; Wheelers, 7:49; Hannibal, 7:56; Sterling Valley, 8:03; Sterling, 8:10; Red Creek, 8:22; Wolcott, 8:37; Rose, 8:48; Alton, 9:11; Wellington, 9:26; Sodus, 9:36; arrive at Niagara Falls, 12 M.

The manager has made arrangements with La Signora Maria Spelterini to walk across Niagara river on a rope, and also to ride a velocipede across the noble river.

—Rev. T. A. Weed is in town. His many friends are very glad to see him looking so well.

—Rev. Mr. Hayden exchanged pulpits with Rev. Mr. Moysee, of Fulton, last Sunday.

—The Sunday School lesson for next Sunday is "Solomon's Prayer," I Kings, VIII. 22–30.

—Mr. Myron Everts has enlarged an repainted his barn. Glad to see this indication of prosperity.

—Last Thursday was the hottest day of the season, the thermometer standing as high as 98° in the shade in some places.

—Rev. James Vincent, who is here on a visit, will preach in the Universalist church next Sunday at 2 o'clock p. m.

—Rev. Avery Walker is visiting his father at Union Square, and preached very acceptably in the Presbyterian church last Sunday.

—The flowers in the Presbyterian church last Sunday were provided by Misses Mary T. French Cora and Kittie Becker and were nicely arranged.

—Henry Penfield is putting up a fine portico on his house. We are glad he is spending some of his spare cash in improvements.

—C. C. Brown has bought of H. H. Dobson the house and lot formerly owned by Mrs. Lawrence, on Railroad St., for $800.

—Dr. and Mrs. George R. Metcalf arrived in New York last week, after an absence of upwards of six months in Europe. They reached Mexico on Tuesday night. Their numerous friends will be glad to hear of their safe arrival.

Facts and Fancies.

Texas has now over 80,000,000 acres of public land.

The gold excitement in Northern Georgia is at a fever heat.

Pennsylvania has spent $8,000,000 for soldiers' orphans since the war.

The cheapest of lawyers—Keeping one's own counsel.

A glass of brandy and water is, at any rate, not an unmixed evil.

Whenever you drink, be sure and have your nose above water.

Some men's minds are so badly tumbled that they can't be made up.

A shot that hits is better than a broadside that misses.

A punctual man can always find leisure, a negligent one never.

Danger should be feared when distant, and braved when present.

When can a lamp be said to be in a bad temper? When it is put out.

A sweet but unrefined young woman should be sent to a sugar refinery.

It is supposed the man who left the house was not able to take it with him.

It does not follow that Rome was built in the night because it wasn't in a day.

If an author would compose a sensible book, he should be himself composed.

The most serious business of a great many people is never to seem serious.

Grasshoppers threaten to become a greater pest in Alabama this year than last.

Two hundred tons of ice are manufactured daily in New Orleans by the aqua ammonia process.

Every member of the human family has certainly a very large family connexion.

An arch young lady should be an archer, for she can bend her beau as she pleases.

The worst-hearted of enemies is often less to be dreaded than the most kind-hearted of friends.

"Why, pa, there's a hole in your hair!" was the startling discovery and exclamation of a little three year old.

To a lover, there are but two places in all the world—one where his sweetheart is, and the other where she isn't.

Don't examine a new book when you are in a cross mood; books shouldn't be subjected to a cross-examination.

A pleasant jest in time of misfortune is courage to the heart, strength to the arm, and digestion to the stomach.

There are a great many subjects to be wise and witty upon—and just as many to be ignorant or foolish about.

A cheerful heart is the richest of all human treasures; for even gold shines more brightly in the smiles of the sun.

Kings never hear the voice of truth until they are dethroned, nor beauties until they have abdicated their charms.

When a printer can't find a cap. A, why ought he to use B? Because it is the next thing to it.

A rich man, without the capacity for intellectual enjoyment, is as poor as the most humble laborer who lives under the shadow of palaces.

He who can irritate you whenever he likes is your master. You had better turn rebel by learning the virtue of patience.

Worldly joy is a sunflower, which shuts when the gleam of prosperity is over; spiritual joy is an evergreen—an unfading plant.

Most tragic actors, however anxious to make a sensation, would rather see the tiers full of eyes than the eyes full of tears.

Don't rely for success upon empty praise. The swimmer upon the stream of life should be able to keep afloat without the aid of bladders.

It is well to be polite on all occasions; but remember that many a man has been a heavy loser all on account of a civil action.

A French Canadian has succeeded, by means of very large canoe-shaped shoes, in walking about a mile on the Ottawa river.

A horse committed suicide in Lake Village, N. H., the other day, by drowning himself. He was sick, and became despondent.

The new Liverpool docks are completed, so that now the docks cover an area of 420 acres, and are valued at $100,000,000.

Great thoughts are not produced amid noise and mirth; the mind's thunderbolts, like the clouds, are forged in silence and darkness.

Grapple ever with opportunity; and as you don't know when opportunity will come along, keep your grappling-irons always ready.

We sleep, but the loom of life never stops; and the pattern which was weaving when the sun went down is weaving when it comes up to-morrow.

Many women are loved without knowing it, and many think they are loved when they are not. They generally find out their mistake after marriage.

Cumberland Falls, the Niagara of Kentucky, have a perpendicular descent of sixty-seven feet, and the roar of the water can be heard at a distance of twelve miles.

In the window of a shop in an obscure part of London is this announcement: "Goods removed, messages taken, carpets beaten, and poetry composed on any subject."

State Nicknames.

Queer are the nicknames of people of the different States, to wit:

Alabama, Lizard.
Arkansas, Toothpicks.
California, Gold Hunters.
Colorado, Rovers.
Connecticut, Wooden Nutmegs.
Delaware, Muskrats.
Florida, Fly-up-the-Creeks.
Georgia, Buzzards.
Illinois, Suckers.
Indiana, Hoosiers.
Iowa, Hawkeyes.
Kansas, Jayhawkers.
Kentucky, Corn Crackers.
Louisiana, Creoles.
Maine, Foxes.
Maryland, Craw Thumpers.
Michigan, Wolverines.
Minnesota, Gophers.
Mississippi, Tadpoles.
Missouri, Pukes.
Nebraska, Bug Eaters.
Nevada, Sage Hens.
New Hampshire, Granite Boys.
New Jersey, Blues, or Clam Catchers.
New York. Knickerbockers.
North Carolina, Tar-Boilers and Tuckahoes.
Ohio, Buckeyes.
Oregon, Webfeet and Hard Cases.
Pennsylvania, Penamites and Leatherheads.
Rhode Island, Gun Flints.
South Carolina, Weasels.
Tennessee, Whelps.
Texas, Beef Heads.
Vermont, Green Mountain Boys.
Virginia, Beadles.
Wisconsin, Badgers.

Blue-Bells of Scotland.

How long has that bell been ringing its fragrant music, and swinging forth its unheard melodies among brackens and briers, and primroses and wood-roof, and that world of poetic wild scents and forms—so many—so beautiful—which a tangled bank over a trotting burn among the leafy wood discloses? Spirits more beautiful than fairies behold those scenes, or they would be waste. That bell was ringing merrily when Adam and Eve were married. It chimed its dirge over Abel, and has died and sprung up again while Nineveh and Babylon have come and gone, and empires have lived and died forever! Solomon, in all his glory, was not like thee.

What an evidence have I in this blue drooping flower of the regularity and endurance of God's will since creation's dawn! Amidst all the revolutions of heaven and earth; hurricanes and earthquakes; floods and fires; invasions and dispersions; signs in the sun, moon, and stars; perplexity and distress of nations; nothing has happened to injure this fragile blue-bell. This is the "central peace subsisting at the heart of endless agitation."

The blue-bell swung in breezes tempered to its strength centuries before the children of Japheth spied the chalky cliffs of Dover. It has been called by many a name from the days of the painted warrior to the days of Burns; but it has ever been the same. It will sing on with its spirit song until time shall be no more. The blue-bell may sing the funeral knell of the human race.—*Norman Macleod.*

☞ An interesting incident occurred on the assumption of royal authority by the new Sultan of Turkey. A general officer was at the side of Midhat Pasha in the servile attitude which Turkish etiquette prescribes in the presence of the Sultan, the eyes castdown and the hands crossed over the breast. Midhat, with an abrupt gesture, forced the officer to drop his hands to his sides saying loudly so that everybody could hearhim: "Just stand up like a man; we have now, thank God, a Sultan who does not mind your looking him in the face."

☞ The pleasant picnic season is now approaching. The chief characteristic of the picnic is its effect upon men of sanguine and despondent temperament. One secretly wishes he was at home, and the other wishes he was dead. The redeeming feature of the picnic seems to be that it enables one to wreak deadly revenge on the man he hates by persuading him to attend.—*Norwich Bulletin.*

Young folks tell what they do; old ones what they have done; and fools what they will do.

A wife in San José, Cal., became wildly jealous of her husbaud, and killed herself, which left the husband free to marry the woman who had caused the jealousy, and he did it within three months.

MEXICO MARKETS.

Retail Prices of Grain, Flour and Feed:

Flour, (retail) Spr'g $7 00, red $7 50, white	$8 25
Meal, ℔ cwt, (retail)	0 00 @ 1 20
Shorts, ℔ ton,	$16
Shippings, ℔ ton,	$18
Middlings, ℔ ton,	$22
Corn,	70
Oats,	35 @ 40

Prices Paid for Farm Produce:

Butter,	18 @ 20
Loose Butter,	16 @ 18
Cheese,	6 @ 9½
Lard,	15
Eggs, ℔ doz.,	14
Beef ℔ ℔,	05 @ 16
Beef, ℔ cwt.,	$6 @ $7
Mutton, ℔ cwt.,	$8 00
Pork, ℔ barrel, retail,	$21
Pork ℔ cwt.,	$7 @ $8
Apples, (dried,) ℔ ℔,	06
Ham, ℔ ℔,	14
Dres'd Poultry, ℔ ℔,	10 @ 12
Potatoes, ℔ bush.,	25
Beef Hides, per ℔.,	4 @ 5

☞ Roll Butter and Eggs wanted at Whyborn's Grocery. 35.

Scraps of Early History.

Many years ago we published a series of articles, written by one of our residents, entitled "Scraps of Early History," and as everything relating to "ye olden time" is interesting in this Centennial year, we republish the following items, and may give other reminiscences as space permits:

Death has spared but few of the cotemporaries of the earliest events of this town, and whatever of their recollections is worthy of preservation must be recorded soon, or left to vague and unreliable tradition. But one or two persons living in this town prior to the year 1800 are now alive, and less than a dozen who lived here before 1812 are left. They are rapidly passing away.

"Time rolls his ceaseless course. The race of yore,
Who danced our infancy upon their knee,
And told our marveling boyhood legend's store,
Of their strange ventures happ'd by land and sea,
How are they blotted from the things that be:
How few, all weak and withered of their force,
Wait on the verge of dark eternity."

The Disasters of 1799.—Probably nothing occurred in the earlier days of the town which created as much consternation and sorrow as the lake disasters in 1799. The drowning of so large a proportion of the settlers of the infant settlement discouraged the survivors, and kept away a large number who intended to come the same year. The accounts of these calamities in the Gazetteers of the present day are very conflicting and erroneous. In 1799 Vera Cruz (which included Mexico Point and Texas), was quite a promising place. At the mouth of the creek Mr. Scriba had put up a hotel, store, and about six houses, the cellars of which are still discernible. Up the creek, and a few rods south of Texas Hotel, stood the grist and saw mill. The last remnant of the old dam went off in a flood many years ago, and no ruins are now seen upon the site of the old mills. Further down and near a point Mr. Scriba had selected for a park for the future city; Capt. Geerman had a ship yard, and had constructed a small schooner and other boats. About this time there was a great scarcity of food in town, and Capt. Geerman and Welcome Spencer started in the schooner for Canada after provisions. They did not return, and after a few weeks great alarm was felt for their safety. Lights were reported to have been seen on Stony Island, and it was thought they might have been driven there in the gale. A conference was held at Vera Cruz, and it was concluded to send a party in pursuit. Mr. Spencer (father of Welcome), who lived at the time on the John Tiffany place, Mr. Wheaton, Green Clark and Mr. Doolittle, all of whom lived near the Lamb school-house, and Nathaniel Rood, who lived just east of Richard Hamilton's present residence, were the persons selected to go. Their search was fruitless, and on their return they encountered a great storm, and were driven towards Port Ontario. A man on the beach saw the boat coming, and when within a few rods of the shore it upset, and all were drowned. Wheaton was a very active man, and hung to the boat for some time, and it was thought he would save himself; but no aid could reach him, and a heavy wave finally washed him off. Clark's body was afterwards found on the shore near Sandy Creek. Capt. Geerman and Welcome Spencer were never heard from. It was supposed the schooner must have capsized, as some of its contents were reported to have been found floating near Sackets Harbor. It is not true, as reported in some of the papers of that day, as well as in nearly all the Gazetteers of the present day, that but a single male inhabitant (Benj. Winch) was left in the settlement. Calvin Tiffany, Phineas Davis, Col. Parkhurst, Col. Hamilton, Mr. Fairfield and others survived. No similar calamity occurred in 1804, as stated.

Our authority for the above statement is Mrs. Sarah Davis, of this village, who died recently. The victims, except Geerman, were her nearest neighbors, and her memory of all the particulars was most perfect and vivid.—She said the feelings produced in this vicinity cannot be expressed. The lake had swallowed up almost one-half of the male settlers, and the survivors were left in a wild wilderness, with a long, cold winter before them, and famine staring them in the face. Sherman Hosmer came as early as 1806, and others came so early that they heard these events related many times by those who were here when they occurred; and all agree substantially in the account given above.

The Academy.—Our Academy was incorporated in 1826, and has always prospered, notwithstanding the burthen of its baptismal name—Rensselaer Oswego Academy—which it carried for twenty years. Since 1845 it has been known by its present name. The first Board of Trustees were as follows: Elias Brewster, President; Avery Skinner, Secretary; Peter Pratt, Treasurer; Chester Hayden, Nathaniel Butler, Moses P. Hatch, David R. Dixon, Seth Severance, Jas. Abel, Orris Hart, Hastings Curtiss, Wm. Williams, Oliver Ayer, John A. Pain, Henry Williams, G. B. Davis, Samuel Emery, and M. W. Southworth. The first location selected for the building was the place where the late Milton Byington lived, about three-fourths of a mile east of Park Hotel. This was a compromise between the rival settlements of Prattville and Mexico. The brick and materials for its construction at that place were procured, but the advocates of the present site of the Institution finally prevailed, and that point was abandoned.

The Sickly Season.—About fifty years ago a most memorable time of sickness occurred among the people living in the northern part of this town. Their sufferings were most heartrending. It was a sort of pestilential fever which prevailed along the shore of the lake from Mexico Point to Cape Vincent. The atmosphere in the sick district seem charged with miasmatic air, and in some neighborhoods almost all the members of every family were reported as sick. On Everts street, Lake street, and near Port Ontario, there were not well people enough to take care of the unwell. Almost every house was a hospital, and in many of them the effluvia of invalids and dead bodies was terrible. Famine, too, had to be fought as well as disease. Committees were appointed in this village and Prattville, which daily visited a portion of the infected district with provisions and aid. They cared for the living and buried the dead. Much aid was rendered to the sick by the people from the surrounding country, yet, so extended was the field of labor that, in some instances, eight or ten patients would be assigned to the charge of a single person. Farther north some died for want of care and attention. Thus, for months *Disease reigned* along the shore, and *Death* knocked at the door of almost every house. Doctors Sardius Brewster and Fred. Smith are represented as having performed a heroic part during this fearful period. Persons now living in this vicinity, who stood at the fevered couch by night and day, are still remembered by the sick ones of that time with the most lively gratitude.

Lewis Miller's Carriage Factory.

Last week we the pleasure of looking over Lewis Miller's assortment of carriages. His show rooms are commodious, convenient, and well stocked with everything in his line.

This season he is making a specialty of platform-spring wagons, and is getting out as good an article as can be purchased anywhere for the same money. He is also making an improved skeleton wagon, which is so constructed that, no matter how much difference there may be in the weights of those riding in it, the springs will act the same on both sides. Carriages, pony wagons, phaetons and lumber wagons are also there in abundance.

The quality of Mr. Miller's work is too well known to need any comment from us, suffice it to say that he uses the best material, and employes skilled workmen in its construction. His prices are in accordance with the stringency of the times, and he does not intend to be undersold. Examine his stock carefully before purchasing elsewhere.

A Home and a Fortune.

The Kansas Land and Immigrant Association, with a Capital Stock of $1,000,000, Chartered by the State of Kansas, a most laudable enterprise, started in our city for the promotion of immigation by the free distribution to the share holders of the Association of $770,800 in cash and some of our most choice and valuable real ertate, farms, brick blocks, residences, &c., is meeting with unprecedented success. From every section of the country orders for shares or tickets are coming thick and fast. The inducements offered are unparalleled. There will be *no postponement.* The drawing and distribution of the prizes will take place positively Aug. 25, 1876, or the money will be refunded in full. The managers of this enterprize are gentlemen of undoubted integrity, honesty, uprightness and ability to do exactly what they say. They are gentlemen who are prominent in our State, and whose public and private characters are beyond even suspicion, and the management of this stupendous distribution will be conducted with an impartiality that cannot and will not be disputed.

The Atchison Board of Trade, composed of all the leading business men of our city, at a recent meeting, unanimously adopted the following endorsement:

"Knowing the several persons composing the 'Kansas Land and Immigrant Association' we cordially endorse them as gentlemen of honesty and integrity, and recommend their enterprise as worthy the support of the public."

Every ticket holder will be fairly represented at the drawing. Price of the shares or tickets are put at the low price of $5 each. Parties desiring a more particular description of the meritorious enterprise, inducements offered, terms to Agents, special offer to clubs and purchasers of two or more shares, manner of drawing, references, &c., send their address to S. M. Strickler, Secretary, Atchison, Kansas, and they will have mailed them free an elegant four page illustrated paper "The Kansas Immigrant," describing the enterprise and the advantages and resources of Kansas, &c. Send for it.—*From the Atchison, Kan., Daily Patriot* 38-6

Wedding.

The Seventh Street Congregational Church was beautifully decorated with flowers last night, and filled with a deeply interested assemblage, gathered to witness the marriage of Mr. Benjamin M. Weed, first assistant of the Fourth Intermediate School, and Miss Anna Moss, daughter of W. V. Moss, Esq., of the I. & C. Railroad. The services were performed by the Rev. M. Halley, assisted by the uncle of the groom, the Rev. Thomas A. Weed, of Monroe County, N. Y. A number of the relatives of the parties were present from Sandusky and St. Paul, and the occasion was so agreeable in all its aspects as to afford most pleasing hopes for the future of the young couple.

The decorations at the altar were furnished by Mrs. Wm. J. Breed. The ushers were Frank McFarland, A. A. Long, Samuel Griffith, and Harvey Anderson. The newly married couple started last night for a long tour through the Northwest.—*Cincinnati Paper, July 7.*

☞ What's the use of keeping a hired girl and burning up all your fire wood, when you can get a nice leaf of bread at Mexico Bakery for 10 cts. 32

Centennial Excursion.

There will be a grand centennial excursion to Niagara Falls via Lake Ontario and Oswego and Rome Division of the Rome, Watertown & Ogdensburg RR., Thursday, August 3d, 1876. Fare for the round trip only $2.50. Regular fare, $11; reduction, $8.50. The excursionists will leave Richland Station by a special train chartered expressly for the occasion and return the same day, having full four hours at the Falls, ample time to see all points of interest. Train leaves Richland Station at 6 o'clock A. M. (sharp); Pulaski, 6:12; Sand Hill, 6:21; Mexico, 6:34; New Haven, 6:47; Scriba, 6:56; arrive at Oswego, 7:15; leave Oswego, 7:30; Furniss, 7:42; Wheelers, 7:49; Hannibal, 7:56; Sterling Valley, 8:03; Sterling, 8:10; Red Creek, 8:22; Wolcott, 8:37; Rose, 8:48; Alton, 9:11; Wellington, 9:26; Sodus, 9:36; arrive at Niagara Falls, 12 M.

The manager has made arrangements with La Signora Maria Spelterini to walk across Niagara river on a rope, and also to ride a velocipede across the noble river.

North Scriba Baptist Sunday School.

On Sunday morning last, in the Baptist church, Hon. O. J. Harmon, of Oswego, gave a very interesting and instructive talk on Solomon's Temple. He also exhibited a very fine drawing of the Mercy Seat. He was listened to throughout with marked interest, and his talk, delivered in such an earnest and pointed manner, cannot fail to be profitable to all who heard it.

In the evening some time was occupied by the school in giving Scripture recitations, and at times the congregation joined with them in reciting Scripture written on the blackboard, which produced a very fine effect. The recitations by the school were admirable, they could hardly be surpassed. During the exercises an address was delivered by a Sunday School worker from Mexico. The singing, both by the choir and the school, was excellent, and added very much to the interest of the occasion. "America" was the last piece sung, and it had a thrilling effect. The church was decorated with much taste, and looked very pretty, particularly in the evening.

The pastor (Rev. E. A. Wilson) is the superintendent, and it is not too much to say that he has one of the very best Sunday Schools in our county. The attendance is quite large, the interest great, and he has the hearty co-operation of both teachers and scholars. Mrs. Wilson, also, is an active worker in the school.

The church was built about a year ago, is very neat, and speaks well for the liberality of those who contributed to its erection. The attendance at the Sabbath services is remaakably good, Mr. Wilson is greatly beloved by his people, and his labors are much prized by them.

Burglaries.

A short time ago the depot was broken into, and the ticket and money drawers forced open, but nothing was obtained from them. A trunk was broken open and a coat and several shirts abstracted therefrom. A nice pipe and razor was also taken from the depot at the same time.

Last Wednesday night, when the watch referred to in our last issue was taken from Mr. Washburn's, attempts were also made to effect entrance into the residences of D. C. Morse, E. Wilcox, M. L. Wright and W. H. Hunter, but these efforts were not successful.

Sunday morning a man in the employ of Mr. Myron Everts missed some of his clothes, and about eight o'clock some one passing to the cheese factory picked up a vest west of Mr. Evert's house, which proved to be one of the articles that had been missed. About eight o'clock A. M., Ed. Everts and this hired man started towards Oswego, in the endeavor to obtain a clue to the remainder of the missing things. They soon obtained a description of a man with a pack upon his back, and following on they reached Oswego about a quarter of an hour after this man. Obtaining the assistance of the police they continued their search and soon came upon their man, who had part of the things with him. All the articles were finally obtained, and the man, who gave his name as George Denee, was placed in jail. Monday morning Officer Wilder brought him to this place, and he was arraigned before Esquire Kellogg, when he pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to sixty days in the Onondaga county penitentiary. He was taken to Pulaski on Monday night by Officer Wilder, and delivered to the sheriff to be conveyed to the penitentiary.

Two coats which he had stolen from John Risley, of New Haven, were also found with him and returned to their owner.

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The Lawn Party,

Which was held on Wednesday evening of last week, on the grounds of S. H. Stone and Henry Humphries, was a success. The grounds, decorated with flags, illuminated with Chinese lanterns, and dotted here and there by tents and flower stands, presented a very fine appearance, and added much to the enjoyment of the occasion. The charm of novelty was added to the other attractions, such as good ice cream and the best music the Helicon Band could furnish, and the result was everybody had a good time. People were good natured and seemed determined to enjoy themselves, and they succeeded amirably. The ladies who had the affair in charge are to be congratulated, and we hope this is not the last as well as the first of these delightful entertainments. The net proceeds were over thirty dollars.

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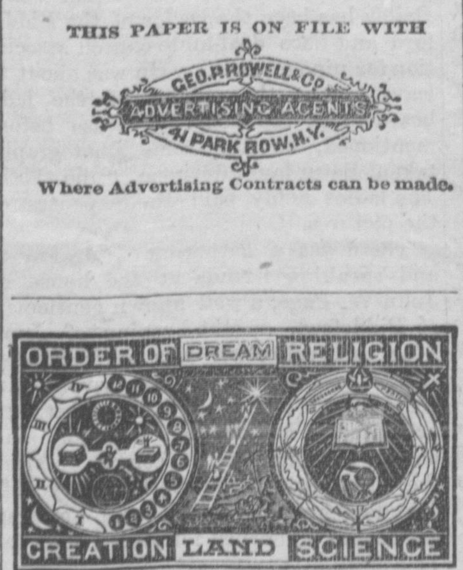

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